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THE NEWSPAPER FOR ASHFORD, TENTERDEN AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



Issue No 61

Available from Wednesday,
November 5, 2008

South Kent College

Open Day



Especially for 15 – 18 year olds

Wednesday 12 November 3pm – 8pm

“The tutors and other people on the course are really friendly. Being at SKC is giving me lots of experience and I feel I’m really improving.

I like it a lot and really prefer it to school”.

Hannah, SKC student



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You are invited to visit South Kent College (SKC) in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover. Please look at the lists below to see what is being covered at each campus to make sure you visit the right one for your areas of interest.

What you can see at

Ashford, Jemmett Rd:

> A Levels & GCSEs 

- > Accounting
- > Additional Learning Support
- > Apprenticeships
- > Beauty
- > Bricklaying
- > Business Administration, Secretarial & Office Skills
- > Business Studies
- > Catering
- > Electrical Installation
- > Engineering
- > Hairdressing
- > Health & Social Care
- > IT & Computing
- > Legal Studies
- > Marine Engineering
- > Motor Vehicle
- > Performing Arts
- > Plastering
- > Retail
- > Travel & Tourism

What you can see at the Ashford School of Art and Design (ASAD) in Tufton Street:

Ashford School of Art and Design

- > Art & Design
- > Fashion & Textiles
- > Fine Art
- > Graphic Design
- > Photography

What you can see at

Dover, Maison Dieu Rd:

- > Accounting
- > Additional Learning Support
- > Apprenticeships
- > Beauty
- > Catering
- > Construction Multi-crafts
- > Electrical Installation
- > Hairdressing
- > Health & Social Care
- > IT & Computing
- > Motorcycle
- > Motor Vehicle
- > Retail
- > Travel & Tourism

What you can see at

Folkestone, Shorncliffe Rd:

- > Additional Learning Support
- > Apprenticeships
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- > Business Administration, Secretarial & Office Skills
- > Catering
- > Childcare and Education
- > Construction Management
- > Furniture Craft & Restoration
- > Hairdressing
- > Health & Social Care
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"I was very nervous coming to College but the tutors are very supportive; it is an easy environment to learn in."

Natalie, Professional Cookery NVQ 2

93% of SKC students feel the College treats them with respect*

"I did not want to go to school anymore; I love the way we are treated like adults here."

Ben, student

Over 93% of students are satisfied with their learning experience at South Kent College*

"I love my course; hairdressing brings out your creative side; it's a great feeling when you can make someone happy by doing their hair."

Tennessee, NVQ 2 Hairdressing

Over 9 out of 10 students strongly agree or agree that they would recommend SKC to a friend*

"I like it here more than at school; you are not told what to do, but given advice, which you can then decide to follow. There are plenty of resources, and you get lots of support. Teachers are open and always happy to help."

Nigel, A-Level student

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* 16-18 year old students' end of course questionnaires 2008
(% strongly agreed or agreed)





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WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Don't forget to pay your tributes to our fallen heroes this weekend on Remembrance Sunday.

Events are taking place around the borough at local war memorials. What's more, in Kennington, a special exhibition will take place focusing on the fascinating personal stories behind the names on the Kennington War Memorial.

Remembrance Sunday details - see page 3. Kennington Memorial - see page 4.

■ BY ED HILL

TRADERS in the town are pulling out all the stops in the build-up to Christmas in a bid to put Ashford on the top of everyone's shopping list.

And Yourashford is throwing its weight behind their efforts - and encouraging all our readers to once again shop locally in the build-up to the festive season.

It has been a tough year for many businesses - blighted by the double-whammy of massive disruption to the ring-road and the financial strain of the credit crunch.

But it is hoped a string of stunts - and the biggest and best line-up of stores and retailers the town has ever seen - will help get the cash-tills ringing.

Viv Kenny from the Ashford Town Centre Partnership said: "We have just got to get the message across that Ashford is open for business again.

"The ring road will be two-way, the cones are going so we have to start shouting about it now."

With the vast bulk of the roadworks completed in time for the Christmas rush, this will also be the first year to fully benefit from the new, expanded, multi-million pound County Square.

The town has also organised a special winter festival to highlight the best of local crafts and produce.

Mrs Kenny said: "We are looking forward to a very busy Winter Festival over November 28 and 29. We are adding more and more attractions every day."

The European style market will feature hand-crafted jewellery, glass, ceramics, as well

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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3 Catch-up on all the local football action from across the county. See the sport channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk

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WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT**

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Thug awaits sentence for train attack

■ BY ED HILL

A FOOTBALL thug from Kennington has pleaded guilty for his part in a vicious attack on passengers on a train.

Andrew Spicer, 38, from Hurst Road was one of six men appearing at Southwark Crown Court.

He was part of a gang of 16 Crystal Palace supporters who went on a violent rampage through the train kicking, punching and head-butting passengers.

The incident occurred at Sydenham railway station in September last year. The train contained Charlton Athletic supporters, but many members of the public were caught up in the violence, including women and children.

British Transport Police conducted a dawn raid in order to arrest Spicer in November last year.

Guilty

Detective Inspector Keith Bennett said: "The train contained Charlton Athletic supporters travelling to a game at Crystal Palace as well as ordinary members of the public.

"A 24-year-old Charlton Athletic fan suffered a broken nose in the attack and several other passengers were head-butted, punched and verbally abused during the incident."

Up to 150 officers from British Transport Police and the Met were involved in the investigation.

Of the 16 men arrested, 12 pleaded guilty and four went to trial after being charged with violent disorder.

Although Spicer pleaded guilty at the beginning of the three-week hearing in October, he has had to wait until the conclusion of the other cases to be given a date for sentencing.

Ten members of the gang, who have already been sentenced in April this year, were given jail terms between 24-40 months for what the



VICTIOUS: Spicer was arrested last year as part of a dawn raid by the transport police

judge described as "mob conduct at its worst".

They have also been issued football banning orders preventing them from attending matches or travelling on the railways for up to ten years on match days.

DI Bennett added: "Members of the travelling public, including law-abiding football fans, have the right to travel in safety on match days."

"The violence that ordinary members of the public were subjected to on the day in question was utterly appalling. These final guilty verdicts are a pleasing end to year-long investigation."

Mick Everett, operations director at Championship side Charlton Athletic, said: "This was a totally unprovoked and vicious attack on our supporters travelling to the game and also members of the general public going about their daily business."

Spicer is due to be sentenced on December 5.

• Email yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk

Lighting up the town with Christmas spirit

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
as festive gifts and locally-farmed meats and produce.

Stalls will lead from the new Elwick Square area through Bank Street, and into the High Street to join the regular market traders.

Park Mall shopping centre will also feature a range of stalls, along with a special showcase featuring restaurateurs who will demonstrate their own brand of cooking.

There will be live reindeer at Park Mall and five of the Kentish Giants will be making an appearance on County Square.

It has also been confirmed that Olympic gold-medal winner Jamie Staff will line-up with EastEnders' actress Emma Barton (Honey Mitchell in the soap) and TV presenter Stephen Mulhern to switch on the town's Christmas lights on November 22.

Meanwhile, the Designer Outlet will be holding its late-night opening ceremony on November 13 with the erection of a ten-metre tall Christmas tree and a firework display.

Jo James from the Invicta Chamber of Commerce said: "Although times are tough, many of our members are saying they are not as bad as is being reported. Businesses are being cautious but they are carrying on as normal."

Any producers, local arts and crafts people and restaurateurs who would like to participate in the winter festival event should call 01233 664410.

Furniture company leaves retail park

MFI on the Warren Retail Park has been forced to shut its doors as part of a nationwide cutback on outlets by the troubled furniture company.

The store shut for the final time on Saturday – and was one of 81 nationwide which closed for business following a management buy-out of the chain's remaining outlets.

It is understood nine jobs were lost. The store in Tunbridge Wells was also shut. And by Monday all traces of the Ashford store had been removed from the company's website.

Customers with orders outstanding have been told items will be delivered.

Depot secures 160 jobs

A NEW railway depot that has opened in Ramsgate means the Hitachi high speed trains housed in Ashford will also be maintained there.

The £35 million improvements to the Ramsgate facility will mean some of the new trains will be kept at the new depot overnight. However, the company says most major maintenance work will still take place in Ashford.

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Wounded captain to address war service

Congregation to hear tales of Iraq conflict

■ BY ED HILL

THOUSANDS are set to take to the streets of Ashford and Tenterden and their villages this weekend for Remembrance Sunday.

And at a ceremony in Ashford town centre this weekend, a soldier injured during fighting in Afghanistan will address the congregation to help remember those victims of recent conflicts as well as the two world wars.

British Legion groups from around the borough are preparing themselves for the annual ceremonies which take place this weekend ahead of Armistice Day on November 11.

David Lamb, from Ashford Christian Fellowship and chaplain for the British Legion, has invited Captain L Roberts – who has just returned from fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan – to give the address at St Mary's Church and talk about his experiences in the Army.

The officer who is a member of the Gurkha regiment based in Folkestone, was badly injured in Afghanistan after an explosion



Pictures ED HILL

FITTING TRIBUTE: Towns and villages from around the borough will be holding remembrance services this Sunday

struck him and two fellow soldiers.

Mr Lamb said: "I think the address coming from a soldier who has recently been involved in active service will be very poignant."

The soldier is currently undergoing rehabilitation to recover from his wounds.

Mr Lamb said: "He can relate to people because he has been involved. People's lives are being really disrupted by what is happening and he can help them because he has gone through it. We can only speak on a compassionate level."

Mr Lamb added: "What the British Legion does is an amazing job. Jim and Rosemary Butcher who are our welfare officers are now amongst the top in the country. They dealt with more than 600 cases this year alone."

The mother of Sergeant Dave Wilkinson, from Ashford, who was killed in July last year, will be attending the ceremony. She has successfully appealed to have his name added to the list on the Ashford memorial. Sergeant Wilkinson, 33, was killed by an explosion during a routine joint patrol with the Afghan National Army in Gereshk, Helmand Province.

People can gather at the war memorial off Church Lane at 10.30am for the Armistice Day ceremony. The service of remembrance will be held in St Mary the Virgin Church at 11.30am.

Towns and villages around the borough will also be holding ceremonies at 11am.

• *Remembering the fallen of the two world wars – see page 4.*

Police report distinct lack of high spirits

HALLOWEEN passed off with barely a bump in the night as police reported "an unusually quiet" evening.

Across the borough the number of incidents reported were down on last year as fewer youngsters took to the streets for trick or treating.

PC Matt King said of the situation in Ashford and Tenterden: "It was unusually quiet for a Halloween night. We received very few anti-social behaviour calls, like egg throwing, nuisance fireworks and that type of call."

Half-term

"Patrols stopped numerous groups of youths throughout the whole area and made just three alcohol confiscations."

Pluckley – which has a reputation as the most haunted village in the UK – did not host its traditional ghost walks or other Halloween events, bringing an evening of calm for local residents.

It is thought the school half-term last week may have prevented many youngsters from organising trick or treating as well as the credit crunch forcing many parents to scrap plans to hold parties so close to Christmas.

'The Truffle' arrives as ring road's circle is finally completed

IT'S been nicknamed 'The Truffle' – and it's the latest bizarre piece of art erected in the town centre.

The Bolt, designed by artist John Atkin, is the focal point of the junction between West Street and Elwick Road. But many say the rusty dome – which from a distance resembles a chocolate truffle – is nothing but an eye-sore.

The sculpture is made out of corten steel which is designed to rust, giving it a protective coating that never requires painting or preservation maintenance.

What's more it is designed to allow the flow of two-way traffic to manoeuvre around the tight corner at the junction of the two roads.

Its installation was due to coincide with the opening of the final part of the ring road to complete the entire circuit going two-way.

Despite a brief hiccup on Monday morning due to a problem with traffic lights, by the afternoon traffic was finally flowing along the missing link on Elwick Road between West



THE BOLT: Latest controversial art work
Street and Bank Street.
Now it is hoped the road opening will help boost trade.
• **What do you think of The Bolt? Let us know. Email yoursashford@kosmedia.co.uk or write to: The Editor, Yourashford, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.**

Planning chiefs set for decision

PLANS for 350 homes off Hunter Avenue will be discussed by council planning chiefs next week.

The decision on the development on the former Newtown railway works was deferred in September by the council.

Now a decision is due on Monday.

Initial designs for the scheme by Fairview Homes were rejected by the council after a public consultation exercise and a report from the South East Regional Design Panel. It criticised the design for not fitting in with the context of the area and for having a public open space area next to the Channel Tunnel rail link.

A new design has been submitted addressing the design panel's concerns and putting the public space at the centre of the development.

A council spokesman said: "To allow planning officers at the council sufficient time to prepare a full and detailed report it was agreed that this application be deferred to a subsequent meeting."

The site is located close to the town centre and the council is keen to see it used as part of its future housing targets.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex Gurkha honoured with equality award from KCC

THE founder of the Sagarmatha Gurkha Nepalese Community in Ashford has won a top award from Kent County Council.

Gomba Sherpa picked up the gong at a special ceremony in Maidstone for being a champion of equality and diversity; one of six people across Kent honoured in such a way.

Mr Sherpa served in the Gurkhas for 17 years. After leaving he formed the group which has grown from just 18 to almost 1,000 members. The awards were part of Black History month.

Hard of hearing charity is offering free service

HEARING aid users can pop into a free aftercare clinic in Hamstreet on Friday.

Hard of hearing charity Hi Kent will host the clinic at The Hall of the Good Shepherd in The Street, between 10am and noon.

Those with NHS hearing aids can drop in and get their them cleaned and re-tubed, and also collect fresh batteries free of charge.

Hi Kent's John Clayton said: "There is no need to make an appointment – people should just turn up and they will be seen promptly."

First occupiers secured for second phase of park

EUREKA Park looks set to expand further with developers applying for a second phase of offices. And developer Quadrant Estates says it has already secured the first occupiers for the next Northdown phase.

Tristram Gethin, director of Quadrant, said: "More than 97 per cent of the buildings at Northdown 1 are sold showing there is strong demand for the development. There is the opportunity to expand which will bring benefits for the community by providing excellent facilities and workplace opportunities."

Yoga classes are the ideal way to stay fit and supple

STRETCH out this winter – by enrolling on one of a number of yoga classes starting in and around the borough.

Open to men and women of all ages and abilities, they take place in villages including Rolvenden, Brookland and Cranbrook and offer the ideal way to get fit and stay supple.

The lessons will include gentle stretching and relaxation techniques.

To find out more details and when and where the lessons will take place, contact organisers Margot Dixon on 01797 227 801.

Exhibition turns focus on our fallen heroes

■ BY ED HILL

JOHN Newington was only 14 when he died in an air raid on Ashford in which 50 people were killed.

Now his story and many others will be told at an exhibition on Sunday, to coincide with Remembrance Sunday.

Photographs, letters and memorabilia will trace the lives of those named on Kennington War Memorial who died in World War One and Two.

Details about where they lived, went to school and worked, and the events surrounding their deaths have been researched by husband and wife team Robin and Jill Britcher, of Faversham Road.

Mr Britcher said: "We had an excellent response to our appeal for information and we have many moving stories to tell."

"Jimmy Allchin was in the RAF and came home to Church Road, Kennington, to celebrate his 21st birthday in November 1941.

"A week later he was killed on his first mission when his plane ran out of fuel and crashed in the North Sea.

"Frank Hollands was captured by the Japanese in Singapore and forced to work on the infamous Burma railway. His last letter home makes very emotive reading."

Kennington was bombed three days before Christmas 1942, killing mother-of-six Edith Smith of Grosvenor Road and Sarah Gray of Fleet Villas.

Among those who died in World War One were brothers Percy and John Vidler – killed within a month of each other. Percy played cricket for Kennington and was top of the batting averages in the two years before the war.



IN MEMORY: The names of Jimmy Allchin (above) and Alex Jennings (top) are on the Kennington War Memorial

Alex Jennings, of Kennington Hall, was studying in Zurich when war broke out in August 1914. He was desperate to enlist, but his father persuaded him to stay and take his final exam. Half an hour after it was over Alex was on his way home. He died, aged 22, when his one-seater bi-plane was shot down.

Mr Britcher said: "We hope that people in the community will now be able to remember all those who died as more than just names carved in stone."

The exhibition is in St Mary's Church Hall, Kennington, from 10am-4pm. Admission free.

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Dip in and see wildlife project

A SMALL corner of the town is set to become a haven for frogs and newts thanks to a project organised by the Prince's Trust.

A group of 16-25 year-olds have taken part in a 12-week project culminating in creating a pond at the Ashford North Youth Centre in Willesborough.

And you can see film of them working on our free broadband TV website www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Simply search 'pond'.

Steve Jarvis one of the members of the team involved in the project said: "The idea is to attract wildlife like frogs to the pond.

"We also want to get some fish in it, but we are

not sure which ones yet. It has been hard work, but I have enjoyed it. We hope it will just be a nice place for people to come and relax."

Victoria Howard assistant team leader of the group said: "I took part in this course myself last year and I found it really helpful."

"The project helps to boost the confidence of people by helping them to gain skills like using the telephone and helping their communication."

Are you or your school or club involved in similar sorts of projects? Then why not film them yourself and upload them on to our site? It's quick and easy to do and we'll feature the best in future editions of this newspaper.

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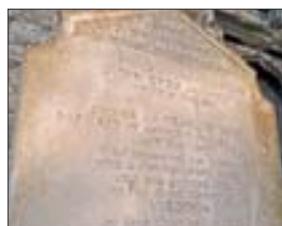


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ROOTS: Ashford's link to America go back to the 16th century with Captain Frances Epes who was born in North Street

Obama 'will be good for USA' declares Green

Black president a great symbol

DAMIAN Green says a US election victory for Barack Obama will be "good for the USA" – if, as expected, he becomes the first black President.

Polling booths across the States closed in the early hours of this morning in one of most hard-fought campaign in years. And all the polls suggested Democrat Obama was set to sweep to an historic victory.

The Conservative MP told Yourashford: "He is clearly a hugely charismatic and thoughtful figure. I believe it will send a big signal about America to Britain and to the rest of the world if they elect Barack Obama.

Prominent

"I think in terms of the symbolism this will be very good for the United States.

"Whether he has the policies to deal with the issue of the global economic crisis we won't know until he is there. You can never tell with American presidents.

"Sometimes those who have trials of glory before they have been elected have turned out to be a disaster and other people who had very low expectations of have proved very good.

"It's the toughest job in the world as well as the most powerful."

■ BY ED HILL

The US election may seem a long way from Ashford, but the town's links with the country date back 30 years before the Pilgrim Fathers and the Mayflower.

The town of Hopewell in Virginia, our twin town, is named after the ship captained by Frances Epes who was born in North Street in 1597. He became a prominent figure in the burgeoning society of the New World.

And as the voting stubs are counted, those involved in the Friends of Hopewell Association are eagerly awaiting the outcome.

Chairman Terry Stock said: "We were over there last year for the 400-year celebration in Jamestown. When Bush flew in by helicopter many of the Americans we were with at the time said that they did not like him."

The Friends of Hopewell Association began in 1993 and regularly organises exchange visits. Some members of the group even have the Epes surname.

Mr Stock said: "There is a gravestone in St Mary graveyard dedicated to the Epes family. We are in the process of trying to get a blue plaque put up on the outside of number 13 in North Street."

To find out more about the association call 01233 666291.

Have your say on MP's video diaries

WATCH and listen to your MP Damian Green speak exclusively on our free, broadband TV website, www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

The Conservative politician, speaking in the latest of his video diaries to our reporter Ed Hill, discusses some of the key issues affecting the borough – including the credit crunch and fears over an impending recession. He also discusses the ever thorny issue of immigration.

So find out his views – and leave your comments – on our site. To access the clip visit www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search for 'Damian'.

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yourashford NEWS IN BRIEF



Folk star coming to town

SHE'S been hailed as the figurehead of the English folk revival – and now acclaimed singer Eliza Carthy is coming to town.

The two-time Mercury Music Prize nominee has been described as one of the most impressive and engaging performers of her generation and her talents will be on display as part of the on-going Equator Music Festival.

Ms Carthy, who has performed with the likes of Paul Weller, Nick Cave and Joan Baez, and has won a clutch of Radio 2 Folk Awards, will perform at the Norton Knatchbull on Hythe Road on November 14.

The concert begins at 8pm. Tickets are available via www.shivanova.com or from the Ashford Tourist Information Centre on 01233 629165.

Breast cancer campaign needs fundraising parties

CANCER Research is encouraging women from around the town to hold a party to raise awareness of breast cancer.

The It's a Girl Thing campaign aims to make all women aware of their risk of the illness and to raise funds to tackle the disease.

A spokeswoman said: "By having a party, dressing up in pink, arranging a quiz, girls young and old can join the It's a Girl campaign to raise money for life-saving research."

For more details visit www.cancerresearchuk.org/breastcancer or call 08701 602040.

Mum's 250-mile journey to see her premature son

A YOUNG mum is being forced to make a 250-mile round trip to see her premature son.

Leah Thompson, 17, from Bury St Edmunds, was rushed to the William Harvey Hospital by the RAF after she went into labour prematurely on October 8 and there were no special unit beds available in her area.

Born 14 weeks early, hopes of bringing son Ashtyn back to Suffolk have been scuppered after an outbreak of MRSA in the special care unit at her local hospital.

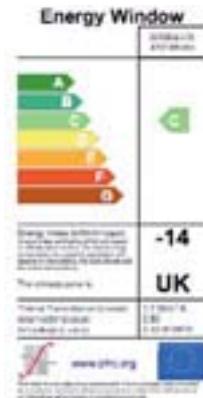
Ms Thompson told the Bury Free Press: "I want him home as soon as possible but I would rather he stays where he is safe."



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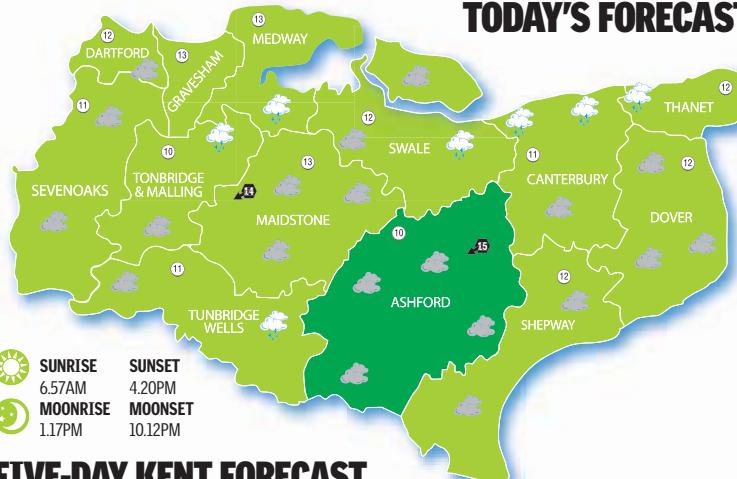
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TODAY'S FORECAST

WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	5:57pm	4.7m
Dover	Sunday	6:12am	4.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	4:30pm	5.1m
Ramsgate	Sunday	5:54pm	5.1m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:06pm	6.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	5:34pm	5.9m
Whitstable	Sunday	6:00am	5.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:05pm	4.4m
Whitstable	Sunday	6:17am	4.4m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	
Ashford	15°C	12°C	12°C	12°C	11°C		Gravesend	15°C	13°C	13°C	14°C	13°C
Canterbury	13°C	12°C	11°C	12°C	12°C		Maidstone	14°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	13°C
Chatham	13°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C		Ramsgate	13°C	12°C	11°C	12°C	12°C
Dartford	15°C	13°C	13°C	14°C	13°C		Rochester	13°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C
Dover	12°C	12°C	10°C	12°C	11°C		Sevenoaks	13°C	11°C	10°C	12°C	11°C
Faversham	13°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C		Sittingbourne	13°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C
Folkestone	12°C	12°C	10°C	12°C	11°C		Tonbridge	14°C	11°C	11°C	12°C	12°C
Gillingham	13°C	12°C	12°C	13°C	12°C		Tun Wells	14°C	11°C	11°C	12°C	12°C

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	9°C	Madrid	10°C
Athens	23°C	New York	8°C
Barcelona	15°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	15°C	Rome	23°C
Bombay	35°C	Sydney	30°C
Cape Town	19°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	11°C	Tokyo	16°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	13°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	7°C
Las Palmas	18°C	Wellington	17°C

New funding to allow free swimming for old

A £40,000 cash boost from the local primary care trust is set to ensure free swimming for the over-60s at pools in Ashford and Tenterden.

The council rejected adopting the Government-funded free swimming scheme for over-60s and under-16s claiming there would be a hefty cash shortfall it could not afford to pick up.

But the PCT says it will pay £40,000 which should keep afloat the plans for free swimming for the elderly.

The PCT is also funding five other nearby councils that have signed up for the scheme.

Neighbouring authority Canterbury has decided to introduce both parts of the scheme which begins in April 1 next year – although Swale has also rejected the proposal.

Head of culture and leisure services at Ashford council Mark Cartt said: "We welcome the PCTs targeted funding, we believe that this will make a difference in the community."

Town's people keen to see what future holds

MORE than 1,300 residents visited an exhibition organised by Ashford's Future in County Square at the weekend.

Visitors to the stand were asked which area of the town's growth was the most important to get right as it continues to grow.

Judith Armitt, managing director of Ashford's Future, said: "Ashford is a fast evolving town with many exciting developments and changes happening across the borough.

"We recognise many of the town's residents want to understand what is going on and therefore the event provided an opportunity for them to understand future plans.

"We saw more than 1,300 people over the three days and the majority of feedback received was positive, which shows the level of interest there is in future plans for the town."

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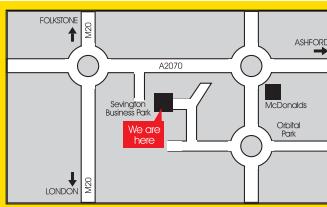
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Q & A

The manager of Ashford Mediation in Tufton Street, talks to **ED HILL** about the service's role in the town and her views on living and working in the borough

Q How long have you been connected with the Ashford area?

A I have lived in Ashford for 40 years and my roots are firmly planted here. I have a love for Ashford and hope never to move away. My husband and children were born here. I have worked with people in the town for more than 20 years.

Q What do you think of the town?

A We have a lot of good things here – a new swimming pool, cinema and bowling alley – and are an expanding town of the future.

Q How did you get involved in the mediation service?

A I have always worked with people, helping and supporting them. I am a trained counsellor and the skills needed for mediation – listening skills, being non-judgmental and trying to bring peace into situations – made it a natural progression for me.

Q What is the history of mediation in Ashford and what is the idea behind it?

A Mediation in Ashford goes back to 1990 with a small group of people – including residents, housing agencies and Ashford council – setting up a neighbourhood mediation service.

This was to help people who were having problems regarding noise, parking, children, boundaries, antisocial behaviour and so on.

Q How does the system work and what sort of issues do you mediate on?

A There are several ways people can use our service. They can refer through an agency, or self-referral by ringing 01233 663488 or emailing ashfordmediation@hotmail.com.

Now, apart from neighbourhood mediation we have also set up peer mediation in schools, teaching children to be mediators.

We also have cases for family mediation. We are a free and confidential service and a registered charity.

Q How successful are the results?

A Very successful. Sometimes neighbours, after talking to us and their neighbours, realise the stresses the other person is under and they try to support each other or become friendly. Often by having mediation the problem may be resolved and not have to go to court. But the process is voluntary and if one party is unwilling to talk we cannot help them.

Q You do not charge for the service. How is it supported?

A We are grateful for funding from Ashford council, Moat, Crime Prevention and other donations from agencies and people.

Q How can people get involved? What skills do they need?

A We need mediators of all ages for all our projects. We are also keen to train young people aged between 18-25 to support young

people in families. We can train them free. It can also be used on their CVs as experience when looking for employment.

Q Are you a fan of modern technology?

A Yes, I love my mobile phone and laptop, it makes life much easier. Although when I forget to bring it to work or my laptop plays up, I feel I rely on these things too much.

Q When you are not involved in mediation what else do you do?

A I work for the Primary Care Trust as a health trainer, supporting people giving up smoking, and promote healthy eating and weight management and physical exercise. They are recruiting now and we offer free one-to-one sessions to support lifestyle changes. I am also operations director of Future Dance. We carry out freestyle dance in primary schools in Kent. We have 21 at present. I don't get much free time, but when I do I write music and poetry, go to church and babysit my grandchildren.

Q If you were marooned on a desert island, who would you like your only companion to be?

A If it wasn't my husband and family, it would have to be Sir Richard Branson. I like the way he runs his businesses. He has many companies under the Virgin umbrella and that is how we see Future Dance developing. I would ask him how he made the first million. I love the entrepreneurial spirit.

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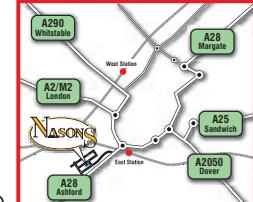
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Fancy life as a fire-fighter? Well, new recruits are needed at Hythe fire station. Search 'recruitment'



Conservative shadow minister Damian Green on the credit crunch and immigration. Search 'green'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...
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Literary triumph from chronicles of disaster

■ BY NICK AMES

A SERIES of bizarre tales – some long forgotten – has been compiled in a new book by author Phil Mason.

His Kent Chronicles of Catastrophe and Disaster, just published by Countryside Books, collects colourful and strange incidents which have taken place in history.

These include a man run over 12 times by a train on the North Kent line and another train accident which almost killed Charles Dickens, near Staplehurst in 1865, when the Folkestone to London boat train hit a bridge.

Mr Mason, from Gillingham, has lived in Kent for 20 years and this is his sixth book.

He said: "It is not a dry chronology, nor does it pretend to be a comprehensive account of every terrible event.

"Instead I have chosen to shine the spotlight on the stranger, more curious and lesser-known side of Kent's history."

Also included are details of a First World War disaster when a munitions depot in Faversham exploded, killing 106 people.

Such was the force of the explosion that win-



NO FLOW: The time that Kent's River Medway dried up is featured in the new book by Phil Mason (far right)

dows were shattered over a 20-mile radius and the bang could be heard 50 miles away.

The first UFO sighting officially acknowledged in the UK took place over Sheerness in 1912, while in October 1134, during one of Britain's worst droughts, the River Medway dried up.

An unusual combat death is recorded when a pair of German aircraft attacked the Ashford to Lydd train during the Second World War.

A shot hit the engine and debris flew into the air, including the steam locomotive's funnel, which struck one of the attacking planes, causing it to crash in flames after it careered into telegraph wires.

The defeat of a French invasion at Sandwich is also examined, as is a torpedo which ran aground during testing and caused panic across Herne Bay.

The sinking of a paddle-steamer called the Princess Alice in the Thames is also recalled, as is a catalogue of disasters close to the Goodwin Sands.

The Princess Alice is the UK's worst-ever civilian shipping accident, as it claimed almost 800 lives.

Other tales include the loss of both Amy Johnson and Glenn Miller in mysterious air crashes, Caesar's invasion 2,000 years ago, the visit of Tsar Peter the Great and paranoia about a Nazi tunnel under the sea.

The author said: "Owing to its geographical position as the gateway to Britain, Kent has witnessed more than its fair share of great events."



'We are easing congestion on the school run'

A HOST of schemes designed to slash the number of school children being regularly driven to school is delivering results, county council chiefs claim.

Kent County Council has released figures which reveal an estimated 3,000 fewer pupils in the last academic year are being driven in.

In 2006/07, sample data showed 35.6 per cent of pupils were being driven to school.

For the 2007/08 school year, that figure had reduced to 34.1 per cent.

With more than 211,000 young people attending Kent schools, the council has hailed this as "a major step towards tackling congestion in the county".

It follows a number of schemes rolled out by KCC to supplement the Government-required school travel plans. Among them are:

- The Kent Freedom Pass – a scheme that allows students aged between 11 and 16 to travel on buses anywhere in Kent.
- Working with charity Sustrans to employ a Bike It officer in the Ashford area and encourage cycling to school across the county.
- Working with bus companies to establish any issues around behaviour on buses and find solutions, so pupils, drivers and the public feel comfortable using them.
- Rating school travel plans to maintain interest and providing additional funding to support schools with 'platinum' status – achieved through introducing sustainable travel schemes.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "Nationally, walking and cycling to school has declined in the past 20 years so it is great that Kent is bucking that trend."

"KCC has worked with parents, pupils, teachers and transport companies to offer real alternatives and incentives for people to change their travel habits."

"Not only is it healthier for parents and pupils, it cuts down on congestion to keep Kent moving."



PAUL CARTER: Says Kent is bucking transport trend

Superbug infections in decline

A TOTAL of 269 patients in Kent and Medway caught the superbugs MRSA and *Clostridium difficile* between April and June this year.

However, the county saw 55 per cent fewer cases of the healthcare-associated infections than over the same period in 2007, the latest Health Protection Agency (HPA) figures show.

Nationally, C diff rates have fallen by more than a third, which officials put down to improved hand-washing and a clampdown on over-prescribing anti-

biotics. The figures are those combined from Dartford and Gravesham, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells and East Kent Hospitals University NHS trusts and Medway NHS Foundation Trust, as well as Bromley Hospitals and Queen Mary's Sidcup trusts.

In all the trusts, since the period April to June 2006, the number of MRSA cases has gone down, from 68 to 34 this year. The number of patients with C diff has fallen from 502 in 2006 to 196 in 2008, the HPA data show. Laura

Probert, of the National Concern for Healthcare Infections, said: "Safe-guarding funding for infection prevention and control can help as this is often the first pot that gets raided whenever a trust is in financial difficulty."

The campaigner, whose mother died from C diff at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, said KOS Media's campaign to highlight the importance of hand hygiene in the fight against killer bugs was important in raising awareness about hand-washing.



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■ BY NICK AMES

NEVER has the need to be environmentally friendly been greater than it is today.

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What's more, you can click on the adverts and be taken straight to online stores so you can take advantage of the bargains on offer.

A selection of video clips mentioned in the paper can also be accessed at the click of a mouse. It means you can get to see everything you hold in your hand now and more – but help save paper.

Gary Wright, group midweek editor of our nine YourLocal papers, said: "Protecting the environment is very important to everyone at KOS Media and when you're in the business of printing thousands of papers a week you become very aware of using valuable



YOUR PAPER: How KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, is getting the green message across at billboard sites all over the county

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LIBERTY CAPPED: Magic mushrooms are illegal

Not so mushroom for debate after law is tightened

FOLLOWING police seizures of so-called magic mushrooms this autumn, it is clear many people remain uncertain about the legal situation regarding the fungi.

There is a widespread belief that picking the hallucinogenic psilocybin mushroom is legal but preparing it for consumption in any form is not.

That is not the case. The Drugs Act 2005 ended the situation in which fresh magic mushrooms were legal but those which were dried or prepared for use were not.

The Home Office ruled the hallucinogenic drug was harmful to some users – especially vulnerable people and those with mental health problems – and acted to clarify the law.

Home Office Minister Paul Goggins said in a statement: "Magic mushrooms come under Clause 21 of the Drugs Act 2005. It is now an offence to import, export, produce, supply, possess or possess with intent to supply magic mushrooms, including in the form of growing kits."

Exceptions will be made for people who unknowingly pick the mushrooms in the wild or find them growing in their garden. Critics have argued the act is difficult to police.

Although some do grow in the wild, the vast majority of hallucinogenic mushrooms sold on the open market come from farms in Holland.

Users experience effects ranging from intensification of colours, lights and sounds to hallucinations.

Negative effects can include vomiting, disorientation and anxiety.



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yourashfordblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in the district of Ashford...

Why we should be making a fuss over the bigger issues

AS you read this, the polls in the US will be shut and the slow process of counting the votes will be well under way.

In fact, if you don't pick this paper up until the weekend, then the chances are the count is complete and the winner and their new First Lady are now choosing colour schemes for the White House.

In the Congo, blood-curdling atrocities are taking place leaving children orphaned or the victim. And if that wasn't enough, the world continues to teeter on the edge of financial meltdown as the stock markets drop quicker than Harry Redknapp's reputation in and around Portsmouth.

Throw in new scientific proof that the rise in temperatures at the North and South Poles can be attributed to mankind's influence on the atmosphere, and not just a natural cycle, and all in all it was a pretty strong news week.

Yet you'd be forgiven for not realising it. Because our newspapers, radio and television stations over the past ten days have been dominated by a misjudged phone call placed by two

over paid stars to the bloke who used to be the bumbling buffoon Manuel from Fawlty Towers. You really could not make it up.

Perhaps it was the glorious escape from day after day of doom and gloom about capitalism itself self-imploding... none of which most of us really understood, other than all our jobs were a little less secure. What could be the perfect tonic but a desperate craving for the blood of two celebrities for whom the credit crunch sounds more like a trendy type of apple than something to impact on their wealth?

Of course, there were some key principles at stake. Yes, the BBC has a responsibility to its licence fee paying public and yes, it was about time Jonathan Ross was exposed as the tired old bloated has-been he has become.

But the acres of news print and hour upon hour of broadcast space devoted to it, has been overkill on a level previously unheard of.

And the casualties seem to be mounting up at an alarming pace. First Russell Brand – a fine talent and whose radio show was, for those who had never heard of it before this fuss, an hilarious, witty treat which will be sadly missed – then the controller of Radio 2 and, at

the time of writing at least, the bank balance of the aforementioned bloated Mr Ross.

I could say we need to get a bit of a sense of perspective here. There are more important things at stake. And I'm sure Andrews Sachs – who has conducted himself with wonderful dignity – must surely be amazed that some messages on his voicemail have dictated the news agenda for a solid week.

In fact, I will say it. We, as a nation, have this regrettable ability to whip ourselves into a ridiculous frenzy over things we suddenly attach society's core values to. But what benefit has losing Brand as a Saturday evening DJ or the controller of Radio 2 actually brought to society that a good old fashioned apology couldn't do? Precisely nothing, I would say.

In fact the only good is that I don't have to watch Jonathan Ross on the telly for three months. And the off button was always there for me to make that judgement without a bay-ing mob doing it for me.

• **EDITOR'S NOTE:** All bloggers are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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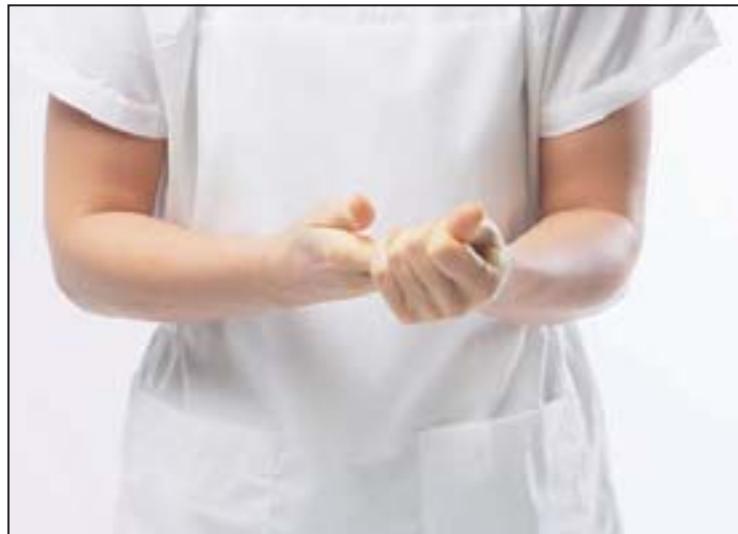
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WORTHING

27 FEB - 3 DAYS

Situated between the beautiful South Downs & 5 miles of award winning coastline. The town offers superb theatres, friendly restaurants & fabulous shopping. Oscar Wilde found it such a 'charming town' & wrote 'The Importance of Being Earnest' whilst staying here. Closeby is the outstanding countryside of East & West Sussex. Includes 3* Chatsworth Hotel (HB) & 1 full day excursion.



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Jacques Vert

WIN vouchers for £150 of clothes

TO help you celebrate the launch of the festive season, Jacques Vert is offering two lucky readers the chance to win £150 to spend in the store at Bluewater Shopping Centre.

Jacques Vert has something special for everyone this season and its now even easier to find the perfect outfit with the personal stylist service available in store.

Eveningwear from Jacques Vert is simple and refined this season, with the main focus on Midas embellished tops, tunics and boleros.

Soft separates in floaty chiffon complement these stunning pieces.

Black dresses with Midas embellish-

ment team perfectly with metallic crochet cover-ups and velvet jackets with pretty bow fastenings.

The stunning burnished floral dress in black and Midas has a co-ordinating shrug for a show-stopping look.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Jacques Vert Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.

No purchase necessary. The closing date is November 20, 2008.

Question: In which county is Bluewater situated?

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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yourletters

TALK TIME

PAUL JERVIS

The ex-soldier, who lived for ten years in Charing, discusses the difficulty in returning to normal life after leaving the Army

How do you know the Ashford area?
I live elsewhere now, but was here for about ten years.

What did you do before?

I was in the Royal Bodyguard section of the Household Cavalry. I went in as a boy soldier at 15 and left when I was 27. I did enjoy my time in the Army, although the bullying was bad. You expect that in an elite regiment, it's all part of the toughening-up process. I left because as an non-commissioned officer (NCO) there was no way I could make it up the ladder.

What do you think of the Army now?

I feel sorry for those serving today because they are not exactly thanked for what they are doing. I had a lot of problems after coming out of the Army. I suffered from post-traumatic stress, but didn't know what it was. I had 20 difficult years and finally got access to a mental health unit. Once you have been in a situation where you are picking up your mate's entrails, you just switch off to the world. At the time you deal with it and don't know how things are affecting you. Then it hits you later and you realise something is not right. It's only now that I am getting help.



YOUR LETTERS



Yellow lines will not be enough

I have to say I think putting more yellow lines on the roads is not going to solve the problem of foreign trucks near the Orbital Park (Yourashford, page 2, last week).

It will just make it more difficult for the people who work there to find parking spaces.

I think it would be far better if all employees who have to park on the road are issued with a parking permit displayed in their cars, on clear signs in various languages and on-the-spot fines and/or clamping imposed on lorries parked where they should

COMMENT ONLINE TOO

Not only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too. Beneath most stories on the www.yourashford.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourashford.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Ashford and Tenterden as well as our villages. We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourashford before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out. On www.yourashford.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly-acclaimed e-editions.

not be. I appreciate that all this costs, but would probably be

cancelled out by the saving on cleaning up and repairing damage incurred by the lorries and their drivers. I, for one, am heartily sick of dodging between them on my way to work and it is only a matter of time before there is a fatality caused by their inconsiderate and, frankly, dangerous parking.

Gillian Barnes, by email

Open the gates for disabled drivers

I understand the NCP car park over Wilkinsons is due to close for a few weeks.

Why can't the powers that be open the gates in the centre of Bank Street for disabled people while this work is going on?

When possible, my husband and I do park in the town before 10.30am, but are not always able to do so.

Therefore, we have to use the NCP as my husband is disabled and unable to walk from Victoria Road car park by the Pop-in Centre.

It was a trial period to close these gates at 10.30am but it was never reviewed.

If you are in town from 10.30am onwards and look at all the disabled spaces unused, I think it is disgusting to see them empty.

What do other readers think?

Mrs S L, Ashford

Lives are being made a misery

My daughter and her family live at the end of Canterbury Road and their lives are made very difficult by the parking of these trucks and the driving conditions they cause.

At the weekends, when the boot sales and market are there, it is often impossible to drive down the road at all and even on days when the cattle market is in process these trucks are there.

On warm days I have seen groups of drivers with tables on the footpath playing cards and dining al fresco.

They use the bushes as toilets, which is nasty for people who have to walk past.

A wonderful lady called Margaret Pryke has been campaigning for so long to try to get something done. The whole area has extra congestion due to the Newtown Bridge closure.

I don't feel yellow lines on the road will make any difference - the trucks just park on them and no one ever seems to check.

Helen Overy, by email

Fireworks trauma of sensitive horses

While I commend the Co-op and Yourashford for reminding people about the trauma pets can experience through the noise of fireworks, at least dogs and cats can be taken indoors and comforted, not so one of the most sensitive of animals - the horse.

I have two ponies which live outside and each year I dread November 5.

If fireworks were only set off on the actual date then it would not be so bad, but they seem to start earlier and go on longer each year.

The penchant that started with the Millennium for fireworks on New Year's Eve is

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* £5 a week savings for car drivers with DART-Tag using the Crossing twice a day, five times a week.

Our new Customer Centre opening hours are currently extended for registrations during the month of November. We are open from 8.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday, with a late night on Thursday until 7.30pm and 9am to noon Saturdays. Or visit our web site at www.dart-tag.co.uk where you will find more information on how to apply for a DART-tag. Local Resident and Exempt Vehicle Registration Schemes.

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- Come in to our new Customer Centre which is just off Junction 1A, A282/M25: Le Crossing Company Ltd, Customer Centre, South Orbital Way, Dartford, Kent DA1 5PR
- Email: admin@dart-tag.co.uk

Night-time crossings will be FREE from 15 November 2008 between 22.00-06.00hrs

 Le Crossing working on behalf of the Highways Agency

 Department for Transport

also a concern but at least they only usually last for perhaps 15 minutes or so. Many horses have been killed as a result of being terrified by fireworks and it is about time their plight was highlighted too.

Name and address withheld, by email

Eco-footprint research step in right direction

Kent Green Party praises Ashford council for commissioning research to establish its overall ecological footprint.

The party has written to other councils in Kent asking them to do the same.

Information from such a process will help our councils use their very scarce resources more effectively.

Ecological footprinting can reduce waste, encourage re-use of materials and lead to cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

It should be standard procedure for all councils to commission ecological footprints, but it is not yet law.

We urge local councils in Kent to follow Ashford's lead, because it is clearly a path towards greater efficiency and ecologically-sustainable development.

There is, however, one major problem for councils in reducing their ecological footprint.

Kent County Council's Local Transport Plan promotes the management of increases in traffic throughout the county.

Increases in air pollution, noise, waste of resources in short journeys all of these follow from the KCC approach.

Until our local councils can persuade KCC to adopt traffic reduction measures, especially in urban areas, a large part of the ecological footprint in each area will not be addressed.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party

Resolve to help us beat cancer in New Year

It might seem far away to your readers, but the New Year is only just around the corner and now is an ideal time to start thinking about your resolutions.

We have produced a World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) diary for 2009 that could help you to keep those New Year's resolutions.

The diary is full of hints, tips and reminders to help you stick to that new healthy diet and active lifestyle throughout the year.

It also contains advice about what you can do to reduce your risk of developing cancer.

The A5 hardback diary also has some delicious seasonal recipes – such as asparagus risotto and rhubarb syllabub – proving that healthy can be tasty at any time of year.

To order your diary, visit www.wcrf-uk.org or call 020 7343 4205. Diaries cost £12, plus £1.50 postage and packaging.

As well as helping you stick to your resolutions, the money raised will also help us continue to fund our vital research and education programmes into the links between lifestyle and cancer risk.

Lisa Cooney, head of education,
World Cancer Research Fund

Hospital's staff were simply magnificent

I must thank the staff of William Harvey Hospital for the wonderful, kind, considerate, caring treatment I had while in Kings Ward C2 having a hip replacement.

The staff were very careful about

keeping everything clean and germ-free. It was only the thoughtless actions of some visitors, who came in with fizzy drinks which got spilt, which made more work for the staff.

Some visitors also put coats and bags on clean beds which were ready for patients.

Perhaps a little more thought is needed from visitors, who should use the hand wash gel when they come onto the wards, then we can help clear these dreadful bugs.

The food was fresh and plentiful and the catering very adaptable to the choices of patients. Thank you all for your care. Well done, William Harvey staff.

Margaret Ludlow, Sellindge

A 20mph speed limit will let us reclaim the streets

Kent Green Party is advocating 20mph limits for all residential areas to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Over two-thirds of all road casualties happen on built-up roads. A survey of the introduction of 20mph zones found that child road accidents declined by 67 per cent, cyclist accidents by 29 per cent and traffic flow by 27 per cent.

At 20mph drivers can have eye contact

with other users of the street, pedestrians feel safer and children can play outside.

While the UK's roads are among the safest in Europe, walkers and cyclists are still intimidated by high speeds. The leading cause of death to children over the age of five is road crashes. The number of cyclists killed has risen by 30 per cent since 2003.

The UK Commission for Integrated Transport has reported 20mph limits as "the one critical success factor underpinning best practice in promoting walking, cycling and public transport as alternatives to the private car".

Dr Hazel Dawe, Kent Green Party

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Lighting up the skies

Remember, remember the fifth of November...

BONFIRE NIGHT

Selected dates
Various venues



KENT will be illuminated by an extravaganza of fireworks over the next few days as the county marks Bonfire Night.

Today Broadstairs sticks to its tradition of holding its celebrations on the day itself, with the hugely popular free November 5th Family Event. It will feature a small fun fair on Victoria Gardens from 5.30pm and free entertainment at the Bandstand from 6pm.

The spectacular firework display over Viking Bay starts at 8pm. Free programmes will be available. For details see www.broadstairs5thnov.event.org.uk.

Visitors can enjoy a spectacular fireworks display set to music above the Drill Field at Deal and Bettishanger Rugby Football Club in Canada Road, Deal, on Friday. Gates open at 6pm and the display starts at 7.45pm. Advance tickets can be purchased from the rugby club bar before midnight on Thursday priced at £3.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. Gate prices will be £4/£2. Find out more at www.dealandbettishangerfc.org.uk.

Leeds Castle near Maidstone is offering a variety of exciting events to choose from, with plenty of fun for all the family.

On Friday the Music and Light Firework Spectacular, suitable for adults and older children, will see the castle lit up by a musical firework display with lasers and projected images. Gates open at 5pm and the display starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £16.

On Saturday and Sunday families can enjoy falconry shows and jousting tournaments before the Legend of Excalibur Firework Spectacular in the evening. Gates open at noon and the firework display starts at 5.30pm. Tickets cost £16 for adults, £10 for children aged four to 15 and are free for under-fours.

Pre-booking is essential, call 01622 880008 or see www.leeds-castle.com.

There will be more events taking place across the county on Saturday. Groombridge Place (pictured) near Tunbridge Wells will present a firework display choreographed to the songs of Abba and Queen, along with a mini Victorian funfair, a fairground



SPECTACULAR: Groombridge Place will host a fireworks display to the tunes of Abba and Queen organ and refreshment stalls.

The fun starts at 5.30pm with the opening of the funfair, which will be open until 10pm. A ceremonial lighting of the bonfire will precede the firework display at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £9.95 for adults, £8.45 for children and seniors and are free for under-threes. Buy tickets on the gate, online at www.groombridge.co.uk or by calling 01892 861444.

The firework display at the Museum of Kent Life at Sandling, Maidstone, will be set off by

Hollyoaks star Jake Hendricks, who is appearing in the Hazlitt Theatre's pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

The event starts at 4pm and the last admission will be at 7.45pm. Tickets cost £8 for adults, £7 for concessions, £6 for children and free for under-threes. Save £1 on all admissions by booking in advance when you call Maidstone Tourist Information Centre on 01622 602169.

Smarden will be holding its annual parade at 6.45pm, followed by the firework display at 8pm.



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MAGIC OF MUSICALS



Friday November 7
Sinden Theatre, Tenterden

EXPERIENCE the best of the West End musicals right here in Kent with the Sinden's latest musical extravaganza.

Magic of Musicals offers a slick, stylishly choreographed take on the musicals we all know and love, featuring songs from hit shows such as Les Misérables, Cats, Phantom of the Opera, We Will Rock You and Wicked. Tracks from these favourites and more will be performed by talented singers Gilda Kristian and Kim Graham in this exciting show.

Kristian has been performing on stage since she was five years old and has appeared in an array of stage productions including



Annie, Guys and Dolls and The Rat Pack Live From Las Vegas. She has also travelled all over the world and was vocally trained by Lansford Roberts of the Nice Opera Company.

Graham trained at the Italia Conti Academy and has become an in-demand functions, session and com-

mercial singer, fronting orchestras all over the world. Both performers have appeared as the Abba girls in The Legends Show at The Imperial Palace, Las Vegas.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12. To book call the box office on 01580 763826 or visit www.sindentheatre.biz.



THE STRANGLERS



Wednesday, November 12
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone

LEGENDARY rock band The Stranglers will bring their unmistakeable sound to Folkestone next week.

With hits such as Golden Brown, No More Heroes and Peaches, the Stranglers have been one of the UK's most enduring bands and continue to influence present day.

MY GRANDFATHER'S GREAT WAR



Sunday, November 9
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

TWO very different lives with a common bond meet in the drama My Grandfather's Great War.

As a fitting tribute to Remembrance Sunday, Cameron Stewart performs his one-man show based on the First World War diaries of his grandfather, Captain Alexander Stewart.

The solo drama blends the different perspectives of two men living at opposite ends of the 20th century, contrasting the horror of the war and today's notions of war and patriotism.

The diaries, which remained a family heirloom for 70 years and have been heard on Radio 4's Today programme, include frank accounts of life in the trenches. Last year Cameron published them online and after selling thousands of e-books, the diaries were published in hardback by Hodder & Stoughton in June, under

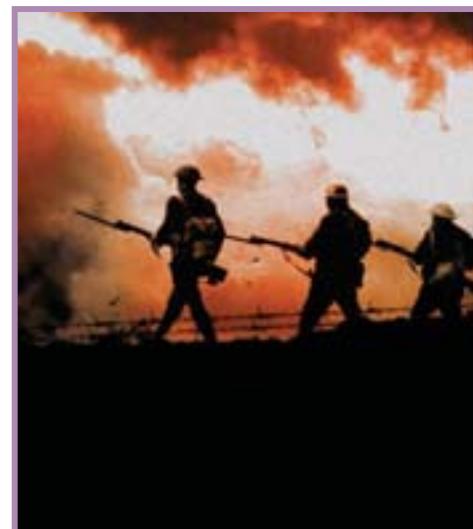
artists. They started out on the mid-70s pub rock scene and later became leading figures on the UK punk rock scene, but their refusal to be pigeonholed in one musical genre lead to their dabbling in a variety of styles. They went on to experiment with gothic rock, new wave and even pop during the 80s.

The band came together in 1975 in the shape of a foursome - Hugh Cornwell, Jet Black, Jean Jacques (JJ)

Burnel and Hans Warmeling. Hans was soon replaced by keyboard player Dave Greenfield, whose instrument added a distinctive element to their songs.

Now more than 30 years old, the band has seen some line-up changes and is still exploring its talents, to the delight of fans.

The concert starts at 7pm and tickets cost £23. To book call 0870 4000 890 or visit www.leascliffhall.co.uk.



the title A Very Unimportant Officer.

There will be a post-show discussion with Cameron in the theatre. Tickets cost £11/£9. The show, which starts at 4pm, is suitable for

ages 11 and above. A Sunday roast lunch will be available in the Café Bar from noon to 3pm, priced at £6.50. To book tickets and make a lunch reservation, call the box office on 01227 769075.

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Quintessential English splendour

BY GARY WRIGHT

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE is too often overlooked for its neighbour Warwickshire, which revels in its 'Heart of England' moniker.

And that's a mistake. Sharing as it does the rolling countryside and beautiful old world villages and houses that can only be England, the county deserves a visit.

Brilliant motorway access makes it easy to reach for a weekend break and there's a host of places to visit from Princess Diana's family home of Althorp Park to the famous Silverstone race circuit. There's also Rockingham Park, Boughton House and Holdenby Manor to while away a few delightful hours.

Be prepared to relax. Even as the autumn chill took hold, the roaring log fire in the beautiful Fawsley Hall hotel meant you could have been in another century.

The elegant Tudor mansion, just south of Daventry, claims Queen Elizabeth I as a former guest so you're in good company and when you decide to put down your gin and tonic and make your way to the restaurant, the food is magnificent. Trust the maître'd and you will sample some truly delightful food, from a chicken liver and foie gras pâté that was perfect, to beautifully presented sea bass or roast lamb that melted in the mouth.

The house was built by Richard Knightley in the 15th century and the suite used by Elizabeth I in 1575 can still be seen, with its high roof, sumptuous four-poster bed and deli-



RELAX: Fawsley Hall, perfect to explore the beautiful county of Northamptonshire

cately carved fireplace. And if you fancy a stroll, the picturesque parkland with its woods, lakes and sweeping lawns, was designed by Capability Brown in the 1760s and '70s. As you'd expect, there's a spa and fitness suite, but you'll be surprised there's also a cinema. Unfortunately we missed the 9.30pm film; the evening meal was just too good and the chance to sprawl again in front of the roaring log fire too appealing.

We shared our time in the county with a stay at nearby Hellidon Lakes. A more modern hotel that is popular with golfers and owned by the award-winning QHotel group, it too offered splendid base from which to explore Northamptonshire.

But where should we visit? Princess Di's former home had some attraction, after all it has become a place of pilgrimage for so many and it seemed right to go and take a look. But on the recommendation of a fellow guest we

decided to take a look around nearby Canons Ashby. This Elizabethan manor house, run by the National Trust, and almost unaltered from how it would have looked in 1710, was beautiful with its period wall paintings and delicate Jacobean plasterwork.

It boasts a surprisingly grand church and the remains of the 12th century Augustinian priory from which the

house takes its name.

Food features high on any short break and alongside some excellent restaurants there are dozens of pubs offering great value grub.

Lunch came courtesy of the restaurant at the Plough Inn in the tiny village of Everdon. Great service in a traditional country pub that is as popular with locals as it is visitors.

The weekend drew to a close far too quickly and the 150-mile return drive to Kent. The M1 is easiest but a 35-minute detour toward the M40 out of the county into Warwickshire gives you a look at the castle or, of course, Stratford upon Avon for a little Shakespearean action.

What Northamptonshire offers is a genuine slice of England. All American visitors should be told to see it and the great part is it's so central you really can use it as a base to visit so many places.

Gary Wright was a guest at Hellidon Lakes, Fawsley Hall and The Plough Inn.

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Northamptonshire

Accessibility: Excellent transport links, within 2 hours drive of three quarters of the UK population

Where to stay: From small, friendly B&Bs, self-catering cottages, campsites and farms, there are perfect places for a rural retreat, from 5 star luxury to a simple home from home. The county's magnificent selection of country house accommodation and spa hotels makes it the first choice destination for those who fancy a treat, from award-winning restaurants and top class spa facilities.

What to do: Annual events adds colour to the countryside, towns and villages all year round. Northamptonshire plays host to some of the UK's major historical events, and is home to four of the UK's top raceways. There are ancient market towns, farmers' markets, country parks, traditional pubs and award-winning restaurants as well as 2,000 miles of footpaths and thousands of acres of green open spaces to be explored.

For more details on attractions and offers see www.britainonshow.co.uk



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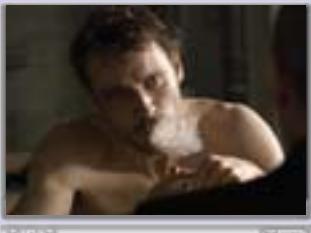
ON GENERAL RELEASE

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (12A)



Bond is back. Betrayed by Vesper, the woman he loved, 007 fights the urge to make his latest mission personal. Pursuing his determination to uncover the truth, Bond and M interrogate Mr White, who reveals the organisation which blackmailed Vesper is far more complex and dangerous than anyone had imagined.

HUNGER (15)



Lending a savage intimacy to the spirit of Bobby Sands – the IRA radical who spearheaded the Irish prison-strikes of 1981 – Hunger is a no-holds-barred immersion in human suffering. The film confines itself to the Maze prison in County Down, where Sands bitterly reveals he's been sentenced to 12 years imprisonment.

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 (U)



High school seniors Troy (Zac Efron) and Gabriella (Vanessa Hudgens) face the prospect of separation as they head off to different colleges. Joined by the rest of the Wildcats, they stage an elaborate spring musical reflecting their experiences, hopes and fears about the future. Expect a song and dance extravaganza.

Ricky's having a laugh

■ BY SHEREEN LOW

RICKY Gervais has come a long way since playing nightmarish boss David Brent in *The Office*.

After becoming famous for Brent's social faux pas and terrible dancing, he's become a comedic force to be reckoned with around the world. *The Office* is one of the most successful British exports of all time and he has a number of awards to add to his name to prove it.

These days he mingles with Hollywood heavyweights like Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller and Samuel L Jackson, but you won't see the 47-year-old losing sight of his Reading roots.

"I've only been in this business for seven years and I still pinch myself, particularly with how well *The Office* did and the people we got to work in *Extras*," he says.

"I mean, it's still weird to me that even Robert De Niro has heard of me, let alone wants to fly to England for a day. It's very strange."

Ricky insists he won't lose himself to fame and fortune.

"I still know why I'm doing it. I do it for the creative process, and only that. This [speaking to the press] is fun, and awards shows are fun, and the money's good – actually, it's brilliant – but I do it because something in you has to do it. And I think you've got to remember that, otherwise it will be weird."

He adds, laughing: "You'll see me next year – I'll be about nine stone and big white teeth, Simon Cowell's teeth!"

Now the actor-writer-director is taking on his first leading Hollywood role in supernatural comedy *Ghost Town*, following



NO BRAD PITT: "I've got the bone structure, it's just well hidden," says Ricky Gervais

cameo appearances in *Stardust* and *Night At The Museum*.

"I never thought my first film would not be written by me or Stephen Merchant [collaborator on *The Office* and *Extras*]," he admits. "But quite simply I'd been offered hundreds of scripts over the last few years, and this is the best I've read in that time."

Ghost Town sees Ricky play a dentist who has the ability to communicate with ghosts after a near-death experience, but he openly admits he's not into that in real life: "I don't believe in ghosts or fairies or ghouls or ESP or crystals or any of those things."

Another first for Ricky, described as the "master of the comedy of the uncomfortable", is playing the romantic hero, although he says his character is not a conventional male lead.

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"My fear was people thinking I'm taking myself seriously so it was important that the romantic element was different and awkward, and I just didn't want that ending where the music swells up and I get the girl in the traditional way, because it would be nauseating," he explains.

"People would go, 'Who does he think he is? Look at him.'

"I don't need to be George Clooney or Brad Pitt. I've got the bone structure, it's just well-hidden."

He may not be Brad, but Ricky has his own Angelina in TV producer and author Jane Fallon, whom he has been with for 26 years. The couple met while they were studying at university, and have homes in London and New York.

Ricky, whose next project is directing Jennifer Garner, Rob Lowe and Jonah Hill in *This Side Of The Truth*, says his dream role would be playing a villain.

"I would love to play really crazily bad, the worst person ever, that would be funny," he reveals.

"Like Hannibal Lecter but with less moral conscience."

HOST TOWN
Certificate 12A

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► The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas 12A
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PROPERTY NEWS

Not a licence to print money, but a professional business option

LANDLORDS will need a licence-to-let and a business plan to take out a mortgage, under new proposals published by the Government.

In a report that could halt the activities of buy-to-let investors, independent housing policy experts recommended measures that would turn letting property into a business rather than a bit of cash on the side.

The review, designed to root out landlords who provide a poor standard of accommodation, also proposed tax incentives that could include changes to stamp duty and capital gains tax for professional landlords to encourage them to buy more properties.

Dr Julie Rugg, the author of the report, said: "We want to see a new culture of renting, where landlords view themselves as hands-on businesspeople not hands-off investors."

The licence would mean that landlords who fail to measure up could have points deducted or lose it altogether and be banned from letting property – rather in the manner of a driving licence.

Slight increase in mortgage lending

MORTGAGE lending picked up slightly in September but remained near record lows as the housing market continued to struggle.

A total of 23,422 mortgages for house purchase were approved by British banks last month, up from a record low of 21,342 in August when summer holidays helped push figures down.

There was also more positive news as estate agents reported a slight rise in sales for the month.

Each agent sold an average of six properties in September, up from five in August – the first rise since January, according to the National Association of Estate Agents.

However, mortgage lending in September remained near the lowest on record and is below the six-month average of 27,481, the British Bankers' Association's figures show.

Upsurge raises hopes of market movement



STILL ACTIVE: Creativity and effort is the key to preventing business from stagnating and dispelling the gloom, according to property group Connells

PROPERTY group Connells has just celebrated its most successful sales and lettings month of the year in Kent – and it says it's not all doom and gloom in the county's housing market.

Staff say this shows recent initiatives have helped stimulate trade and make people aware moving is still an option.

They added that the rental market is also picking up and said as long as estate agents are realistic in what they expect to make and consider their prices carefully, the market need not stagnate.

Area partner Mark Weller said: "The results show that the property market in Kent is

■ BY NICK AMES

active and that large numbers of people are still moving or looking to rent.

"With the summer holidays over and people thinking about moving into a new place before Christmas, we have seen a surge not only in the number of instructions but also in tied-up sales.

"We expect this trend to continue as the recent reduction in interest rates could be just the incentive needed for those who were hesitating about buying.

"Houses will continue to sell, as long as vendors are realistic and their agent is prepared to work really hard on their behalf, using

every opportunity to bring a property to the attention of as many buyers as possible."

Other upsurges have been seen across the market. Canterbury was recently voted as having a continuing appeal to buyers.

David Bexon of SmartNewHomes.com said of the city: "Homebuyers are keen to buy into impressive history and status as a World Heritage Site.

"The local economy has grown substantially, with thousands of businesses based in the city centre and plenty of job opportunities."

Housebuilding is also going ahead in Ashford, which has been earmarked as a growth town.

Developers say they have taken fluctuations in the market into account and proposals for 35,000 new homes will be maintained.

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- Popular Location



SINGLETON £184,995

ASHFORD OFFICE BAP01155

- Modern 3 bedroom family home
- Beautifully presented
- NO CHAIN



ASHFORD £159,995

ASHFORD OFFICE BAP01102

- Central 3 Bed Property
- Substantial 90ft Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking



KENNINGTON £239,995

ASHFORD OFFICE BAP01295

- Immaculate 3 Bed Detached
- 17ft Kitchen/20ft Lounge
- Off Street Parking & Garage



KINGSNORTH £250,000

ASHFORD OFFICE BAP01288

- 4 Double Bed Detached
- Off Street Parking
- 2 En-suites



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ASHFORD, OFFERS OVER £129,995
Modernised terraced house in popular area of South Ashford. Lounge, dining room, modern fitted kitchen, family bathroom. Additional benefits include gas central heating and double glazing.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



STANHOPE £135,000
Four bedroom end of terrace house. Lounge, kitchen/diner, ground floor cloakroom, family bathroom. No onward chain.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



KENNINGTON O1EO £139,995
Two bedroom modern terraced property. Entrance hallway, ground floor cloakroom, modern fitted kitchen and lounge/diner, three piece white family bathroom, parking for two vehicles.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



SOUTH ASHFORD £139,995
Three bedroom semi detached chalet style home. Two reception rooms and fitted bathroom and kitchen. No chain.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



WILLESBOROUGH O1EO £140,000
Two bedroom end of terrace house. Off road parking, lounge, kitchen and garden. No onward chain.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



KENNINGTON O1EO £140,000
Bay fronted 2 bed terrace. Entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, lean-to conservatory 2 double beds & bathroom. Frontage ideal for off road parking subject to necessary permissions.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



CHARTFIELDS O1EO £140,000
Coach house. Integral garage which has been converted to a study, first floor comprises lounge/diner, kitchen, two double bedrooms and family bathroom. Off road parking for multiple vehicles.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



SINGLETON £155,000
Two bedroom end of terrace house. Lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, family bathroom. Garage and driveway parking. Rear garden. No chain.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



WILLESBOROUGH O1EO £155,000
No Chain. Investors only with sitting tenants in place. Three Bedroom terrace house. Lounge, kitchen/diner, en suite shower room, family bathroom. Two off road parking to rear.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



HAMSTREET £165,000
Two bedroom semi detached bungalow with detached garage, parking, two double bedrooms plus a loft room, bathroom. Near to local amenities and village centre.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



WILLESBOROUGH O1EO £160,000
1920's style three bedroom semi detached with through lounge/diner, kitchen, utility, downstairs bathroom and lean to, garage, rear mature garden, central heating and double glazing.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



SOUTH ASHFORD £164,950
Three bedroom end of terrace house. Lounge/dining room, kitchen, utility room, downstairs bathroom. Driveway parking, rear garden. No onward chain.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



SOUTH ASHFORD O1EO £169,950
3 bed modern semi detached house. Entrance hall, ground floor cloakroom, modern fitted kitchen/breakfast room and lounge/diner. Master with en suite and family bathroom, off road parking.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



HAMSTREET £175,000
"NO CHAIN" 1950's 3 bed semi-detached. Modern fitted kitchen/breakfast room, lounge with fireplace and ground floor cloakroom, family bathroom, enclosed rear garden in excess of 150ft.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



WILLESBOROUGH O1EO £189,995
Three bedroom extended semi detached house. Recently renovated. Includes ground floor shower room, study, garage and off road parking.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



ORCHARD HEIGHTS £215,000
Detached house with ground floor wc, lounge, dining room, recently fitted modern kitchen & 12ft UPVC conservatory. 3 bedrooms, master with en suite shower room & bathroom.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



WILLESBOROUGH O1EO £200,000
No chain. 3 bed semi detached 'Earls' built property with entrance hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, downstairs shower room and WC, conservatory & family bathroom. Rear garden & off road parking.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



KENNINGTON £229,995
3 bed detached family home with entrance hall, downstairs cloakroom, kitchen/breakfast room, lounge/diner and family bathroom, driveway with parking, garage & 85ft rear garden.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



CHARTFIELDS O1EO £250,000
Four bedroom detached house. Garage & driveway. Ground floor cloakroom, lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast room, en suite shower room and family bathroom. Double glazing.

Ashford Office 01233 624561



ASHFORD £275,000
Five bedroom terrace house with basement room. Two reception rooms, master with en suite. Near to town centre and station. Rear garden and allocated parking.

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CHARTFIELDS OFFERS OVER £295,000
No chain 5 bed detached house with double detached garage. Two reception rooms, study, utility, conservatory, master with en suite and garden with two outbuildings with power & light.

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OLD KENNINGTON GUIDE PRICE £400,000-£425,000
Four bedroom detached split-level bungalow. Ball Lane area. Two receptions, kitchen, bathroom and en suite. Garage and driveway parking for several vehicles.

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ASHFORD £425,000
Five bedroom Victorian semi detached house. Two receptions rooms, modern fitted kitchen & bathroom, utility. Off road parking to rear for 2/3 vehicles.

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WOODCHURCH £450,000
4 bed detached with entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room, breakfast room, en suite to master and family bathroom. Double detached garage, gas central heating & d. glazing.

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PLUCKLEY £575,000
Plot of approx 6.5 acres. Lounge, dining room, three bedrooms with one en suite, family bathroom & modern fitted kitchen. Planning permission for a double extension.

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Countrywide

SINGLETON



OIEO £100,000

One bedroom extended home. An extra room that could be used as a bedroom, double glazing and central heating.

KENNINGTON



£115,000

Two bedroom first floor apartment. Entrance hall, open-plan lounge/kitchen, bathroom and two bedrooms, the master of which has an en-suite.

SOUTH WILLESBOROUGH



£129,950

Two bedroom terrace house. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, upstairs bathroom and rear garden approx 110ft.

SOUTH WILLESBOROUGH



OIEO £135,000

Three bedroom staggered terrace house. GR cloakroom, lounge/diner, kitchen and rear garden. No onward chain. Gas central heating.

GODINTON PARK



£189,995

Three bedroom link-detached. Entrance porch and hall, kitchen and conservatory with three bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor.

KENNINGTON



OIEO £224,995

Family room, dining room, kitchen, lounge and study, master with en-suite, rear garden and a driveway to the front.

ASHFORD



£234,995

4 bedroom detached house. 2 receptions, kitchen, utility, downstairs cloakroom, en suite shower room and bathroom. Driveway parking.

PARK FARM



£250,000

5 bedroom property occupies a prominent position within Acorn Close. Benefits include three reception rooms, conservatory and a double garage.

KENNINGTON



£265,000

Four bedroom detached house. Two reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, two en suites and family bathroom. Garage. No onward chain.

KENNINGTON



£274,995

Four bedroom house. Cloakroom, two reception rooms, kitchen, en suite to the master, rear garden and garage and driveway.

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Ashford, Kent TN24 0JQ



Shadoxhurst £479,995

5 bedroom detached bungalow. Set in 1 acre of land approx. En-Suite & dressing room to master.

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Sellindge £339,950

4 bedroom detached house. Garage, carport and driveway. Front and rear gardens.

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Smeeth £310,000

Three/Four Bedroom Home. No chain. Luxury kitchen & bathroom. Underfloor heating.

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Ashford £280,000

Five/Six bedroom detached house. Garage. Close to town.

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Kennington £229,995

4 bedroom semi-detached house, large garden, garage and off road parking, kitchen/breakfast room.

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Singleton Hill £205,000

Three bedroom detached house. Two reception rooms. En-suite. Garage

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Ashford £195,000

3 bedroom townhouse, garage en-bloc, close to town centre, en-suite to master

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Kennington £169,995

Three bedrooms, two reception rooms, conservatory, off road parking

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Singleton OIRO £169,995

3 bedroom semi-detached house. Large kitchen/diner. Garage & ORP. Cul-de-sac location

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Godinton Park £167,000

3 bedroom semi-detached house. No chain. Lovely condition. Cul-de-sac location

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Willesborough £159,995

Two bedroom end of terrace house. No chain.

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Willesborough £157,500

Three bedroom terrace house, lounge/diner, gas fire central heating, double glazing.

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Willesborough £155,000

Three Bedroom Victorian House, Off Road Parking, 100' garden approximately

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Willesborough £149,995

Two bedroom end of terrace. Double glazing. Garage to rear.

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Kennington £145,000

Three bedroom end of terrace. Double glazing. Modern kitchen & bathroom.

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Ashford £134,995

Three bedroom terrace. Original fireplaces. No chain. 100ft + Rear Garden.

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Ashford £130,000

Two bed mid terrace. Ideal 1st time buy. Walking distance to town & train station.

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Willesborough £122,995

2 bedroom ground floor flat. Allocated parking. Popular location. Ideal first time purchase.

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Singleton Farm OIRO £119,995

Two bedroom semi-detached house. Garage & Driveway. DG & GFCH.

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Willesborough £134,000

3 bedroom semi-detached house. Victorian features. Two w.c.s. Approx. 120ft garden.

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Willesborough OIRO £116,000

2 bedroom end of terrace house in popular location with gas fired central heating.

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Kennington £109,950

3 bedroom mid terrace. Central heating. Kitchen & Utility Room. Viewing recommended.

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Ashford £104,995

One bedroom apartment. No chain. Recently refurbished.

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Ashford £97,995

One bedroom apartment. Close to town & train station. Open plan lounge.

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Willesborough £83,000

One bedroom ground floor flat. Ideal for first time buyers and also investors.

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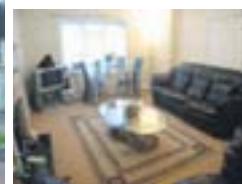
KINGSNORTH



£250,000

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Your Move are pleased to offer this four bedroom detached family home in the sought after location of Bryony Drive, Kingsnorth. The property accommodation comprises of a living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, en-suite to master bedroom and family bathroom/wc. Benefits to the property include a double garage and driveway for 4 cars, a cloakroom / wc and front & rear gardens. Additionally this property can be purchased with no onward chain. Viewings are highly recommended.



ASHFORD £124,995



KENNINGTON £169,995



ASHFORD £161,995

ASHFORD £161,995



BETHERSDEN £229,995



ASHFORD £142,500



KENNINGTON £110,000



ASHFORD £215,000



SHADOXHURST £349,950



ASHFORD £164,995



STANFORD £365,000



WILLESBOROUGH £104,500



ASHFORD £74,995

ASHFORD £74,995



KINGSNORTH £164,995



ASHFORD £155,000



BETHERSDEN £189,995



BRABOURNE LEES £189,995



CHARING £410,000



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MOTORS NEWS



Baby Alfa makes early arrival at Kent dealer

ALFA Romeo's sporty new MiTo supermini arrived at two Kent dealerships this week – two months ahead of official UK launch on January 24, 2009.

But the county's newest Alfa dealership, Lipscomb at Aylesford, Maidstone, and long-established Northgate at Canterbury have the order book open already on the charismatic Italian brand's new baby.

Prices start at £10,975 for the entry level Alfa MiTo 1.4 16V 95bhp Turismo and market watchers at the CAP valuation guide expect the MiTo to hold its value well – the Alfa MiTo 1.3 JTDM (diesel) Veloce should retain 47 per cent of value after three years/60,000 miles.



FG Barnes goes after sales drive with launch

VAUXHALL dealer FG Barnes has taken on the Chevrolet brand and celebrates with a major promotion next weekend.

The move follows closure of the nearby Dutton Forshaw Chevrolet at Parkwood, Maidstone, and will be marked by tempting deals on more than 100 approved used Chevrolets and Vauxhalls.

FG Barnes will also spend around £100,000 on a site revamp to accommodate the brand, with a formal Chevrolet opening in early January, coinciding with Vauxhall's launch of the all-new Insignia.



Captivating Chevy deal on until the end of year

CHEVROLET launched its spacious Captiva SUV last year with a fanfare – prices from £16,995, but closer inspection revealed that this was for the asthmatic front-wheel drive only petrol model.

Now Chevy is offering the more desirable fwd 2.0 VCDi LS diesel for the same price until the end of 2008, saving £1,450 against list price and bringing far better performance and economy – averaging around 40mpg – as well as delivering a high spec including alloys, quality stereo and roof rails.



LOOKING GOOD: Audi's latest generation A4 is a mixture of lifestyle estate and serious load lugger and its longer wheelbase has enabled the car to edge closer to BMW's 3-Series

Audi's A4 spaceship is a 'best drive' – at a price

ROAD TEST

AUDI A4

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

Our lavishly-spec'd car struggled to justify its £41,590 price tag.

Where A4 cabin feels well-made, roomy and durable at the £20,000 end of the market, it looks hideously over-priced at the other end.

Enough about shortcomings though, because there is plenty to laud too and especially when equipped with the creamy six-cylinder 237bhp 3.0TDI diesel – the perfect riposte to claims that petrol engines are still best for refinement.

There is lots of pulling power on tap and the Quattro system transfers this tidily to the road to deliver 0-62mph in 6.3 seconds and a great drive – one of best on test this year.

The long wheelbase, wide track, low-slung stance and light weight plant the car well on the road and it corners with a flat stance and lovely poise, again aided by the Quattro system.

The ride is not harsh though and the A4 feels classy on the motorway, helped by that big cabin and, if fitted, the £1,100 'Open Sky' panoramic sunroof.

As for the Avant body style, this latest generation is a good mix of lifestyle estate and serious load lugger and a sharp looker too.

• Email steveloader@kosmedia.co.uk



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AutoPlanet Price £6099
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51 to 57 Reg	Renault Clio - Choice of 25	£3,999
Y to 07 Reg	Ford Fiesta - Choice of 20	£3,299
51 to 56 Reg	Mini One/Cooper/S - Choice of 25	£7,499
03 to 56 Reg	Toyota Yaris - Choice of 20	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Vauxhall Corsa - Choice of 20	£4,999

MPVs



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140

54 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 807 - Choice of 10	£9,999
04 to 08 Reg	Renault Scenic - Choice of 10	£5,699
Y to 07 Reg	Citroen Picasso - Choice of 20	£3,799
05 to 08 Reg	Ford Focus C-Max - Choice of 10	£6,499
53 to 08 Reg	Vauxhall Zafira - Choice of 20	£5,499
54 to 07 Reg	VW Sharan - Choice of 15	£9,999

Medium Cars



Choice of
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05 to 57 Reg	Mazda3 - Choice of 20	£7799
06 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 207 - Choice of 25	£6,799
02 to 57 Reg	Peugeot 307 - Choice of 90	£5,299
03 to 57 Reg	Renault Megane - Choice of 25	£4,999
52 to 07 Reg	Ford Focus - Choice of 40	£3,799
02 to 57 Reg	Vauxhall Astra - Choice of 45	£5,499

Prestige Cars



Choice of
85

06 to 56 Reg	BMW 1 Series - Choice of 5	£12,999
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53 to 06 Reg	Jaguar X-Type - Choice of 20	£8,299
W to 04 Reg	Lexus IS200 - Choice of 5	£6,499
51 to 55 Reg	Mercedes A-Class - Choice of 10	£5,499
03 to 55 Reg	Mercedes C Class - Choice of 15	£9,499

Large Cars



Choice of
215

54 to 08 Reg	Peugeot 407 - Choice of 50	£5,999
02 to 57 Reg	Renault Laguna - Choice of 10	£3,499
X to 57 Reg	Ford Mondeo - Choice of 70	£3,999
02 to 55 Reg	Toyota Avensis - Choice of 10	£2,199
54 to 57 Reg	Vauxhall Vectra - Choice of 25	£6,799
53 to 56 Reg	VW Passat - Choice of 10	£5,499

Sports & 4X4s



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85

54 to 07 Reg	Mazda MX-5 - Choice of 10	£9,799
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Y to 06 Reg	Land Rover Freelander - Choice of 10	£5,499
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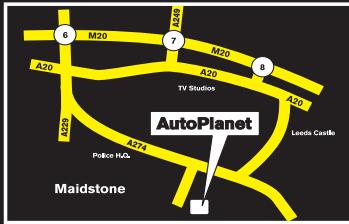
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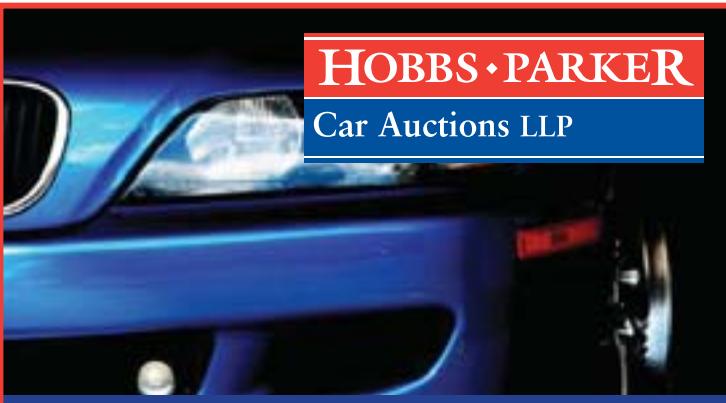
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SPIDER, 3.2 V6, g57ff, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, 3000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

AUDI

A4, SPORT, ex51ep, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, electric windows, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, stereo, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15" alloys, grey metallic, 94000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

TT, 1.8 20R, 2002, trim: leather engine size: 1800 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, silver, 14000 miles, £14995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

TI, QUATTRO, 2003, trim: leather engine size: 1800 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, silver, 41000 miles, £13995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

BMW

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CITROEN

C2, 1.11 COOL 3dr, 2008, 1.1 cool 3d hatch sp ed, blue, 1000 miles, £6995, Barretts Citroen, Canterbury, 0845 3709768 (TRADE)

C3, 1.16 16V Exclusive 5dr Auto, 1.6i 16v exclusive 5dr auto hatch, arctic steel, 1000 miles, £10895, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0809 (TRADE)

FIAT

COUPE, 2.0 16V, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.2 Dynamic 6v, ex05mc, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, heated seats, front air vents, leather steering column, power steering, abs, child locks, twin air bags, colour coded body, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, blue, 28000 miles, £4990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI Style 5dr (2007 -), 29/09/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering electric windows, silver, 4694 miles, £10400, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC Climate 2005, jeans, 6970 miles, £6495, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 3dr, l157azg, metallic amethyst, abs, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/dt, rear headrests, mauve, 10000 miles, £6495, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2 I-CTDI SPORT with HFT, g5k7x0, adjustable seats, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/dt, rear headrests, contact lewis gallago or tim williams, 01474 890333, 01795, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

CIVIC, MAX 5dr, au02 xgg, remote central locking, full leather, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, adjustable steering column cloth upholstery, head restraints, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, radio, 15" alloys, silver, 1995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

X-TYPE, V6 3.0 SE AUTOMATIC, 51 (with private plate), 01 (p) jaguar x-type v6 3.0 se auto, metallic sky blue coachwork with cream leather trim, used jaguar x-type to include: power steering, air conditioning, electric windows, silver, 4694 miles, £10400, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI GS 5dr, p07wp, air-conditioning, abs + ebd, cd player, insurance group 10, red, 17900 miles, £6994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Soft Top, g510ep, power steering, tow pack, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, side hinged tailgate/stickers on sides of vehicle are removable road tax is £210 per year on this vehicle, green, 18000 miles, £1995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

MAZDA

ACCORD, 2.2 I-CTDI SPORT with HFT, g5k7x0, body colour bumpers, cruise control, internally adjustable headlight height, front electric windows, honda superlocks (deadlocks), height adjustable front seat belts, adjustable dashboard illumination, lockable underfloor storage, power tailgate (remote operated), tilt and telescopic steering wheel, headrests, isolfix childseat restraint mechanism, heat absorbing tinted windows, rolling code ecu engine immobiliser, central locking, rear electric windows, rear cupholders, alabaster silver, metallic, 5980 miles, £17995,0000, Barretts Honda, Canterbury, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

MX-5, 1.8 Icon, ef05ym, remote central locking, full leather, remote alarm, head restraints, power steering, air bag, cloth upholstery, head restraints, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, 15" alloys, silver, 2000 miles, £4995, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 Fidji Ltd Edn Hatchback 3d 117cc, km950wl, november 08 mot 01/09, 1st car, blue, miles, £5950, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, DYNAMIQUE 16V 5dr, 4520314, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, metallic paintwork, abs, air bag, adjustable steering column, power steering, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 16" alloys, silver, 23293 miles, £2595, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

MINI

MINI COOPER S, 0.6, perfect condition, low mileage, 1 lady owner from new, garaged, low mileage, great car, pepper white / black roof, 9200 miles, £13225, Canterbury, 07730 666223 (PRIVATE)

COPPER, S, 1.6 3 DR, 2002, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, blue, 42000 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

LANCER, 1.6 Equippe 5dr, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, contact lewis gallago or tim williams, 01474 890333, 01795, SMC Ford Gravesend, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

NISSAN

KUBISTAR, SE dc1 70, 870182, side load door, ply-lined, cd player, abs, air bag, electric mirrors, white, 25000 miles, £4395, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01747 853034 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

106, INDEPENDANCE, 2000, green with black, £3968 miles, £2195, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

206, 1.4 SE 3dr Tip Auto [DAM+CC], 125492127, abs, air, twin air bags, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, onyx black, 25713 miles, £5499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

ROVER

45, 1.6 5dr, 2004 (03) 1.6 stepsept automatic, 5 door, black leather trim, only one lady keeper from new, full service history (will be sent on request), 40000 miles, mot, 1st car, air conditioning, central locking/alarm, original hi-fi, alloys etc. a well looked after mint example, a bargain at only £3495, metallic silver, £3495, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

IMPREZA, WRX TURBO, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SUBARU

200, 216 CabrioletABRIOLLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

205 door Hatch, 2004 (03) 1.6 stepsept automatic, 5 door, black leather trim, only one lady keeper from new, full service history (will be sent on request), 40000 miles, mot, 1st car, air conditioning, central locking/alarm, original hi-fi, alloys etc. a well looked after mint example, a bargain at only £3495, metallic silver, £3495, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

CORSA, 1.8I 16V SXI+ 5dr [AC], vN06lm, abs, air bag, twin air bags, air conditioning, half leather, cloth upholstery, rear headrests, cloth headrests, remote central locking, front fog lamps, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio, 15" alloys, mett, 26000 miles, £5495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

AVENSIS, T2 VVT-I 5dr, auto, fy53 vlk, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, air conditioning, cd player, radio cassette, trip computer, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, power steering, green, 34600 miles, £5495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

AVENSIS, GS VVT-I 5dr, fy52vco, remote central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, air bag, abs, colour coded body, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio, 15" alloys, black, 75000 miles, £4995, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CORSA, LIFE 16V Twintop 3dr S-A, yf54 ubg, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, abs, power steering, cd player, radio, 15" alloys, lucerne silver, 90000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

AGILA, DESIGN 1, gf08mzt, finished in atlanta blue with black interior, blue, 12000 miles, £5195, Cafyns Tunbridge Wells, 01922 515700 (TRADE)

ASTRA, ENERGY 1796CC 5 door, 2007, cd player abs brakes air conditioning, alloy centres, cloth upholstery, air bag, abs, air bags, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio, 15" alloys, black, 15300 miles, £7995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 1.8 16V 5dr, 2001 turbo automatic, aluminim in metallic yellow, trim, only 68000 miles, only 1 former keeper, remote central locking, head restraints, power steering, air bags, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, air bag, abs, air bags, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio, 15" alloys, grey, 20000 miles, £4995, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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MAYBE MORE

Seeking fun, friendship, maybe more. WLTM fun man 25-30. I'm female, 26, brown hair/blue eyes, average build. Box 445622 1 2

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Lively female, 26, 5ft2, brown hair, green eyes, size 10, single mum, enjoys most things, seeks genuine, laid-back guy for fun, friendship and more. Box 428555 1

HOLD MY HAND

Single mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, drinks, meals and more. Box 439941 1

TAKE ME OUT

Single mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, drinks, meals and more. Box 439941 1

HELLO THERE

I'm female, 33, 5ft5, medium build, green eyes, enjoys music, cooking, seeking a lovely and lively male who enjoys life to the full. Box 439303 1

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LIVE, LAUGH & LOVE

Lively, attractive female, 32, 5ft5", looking to meet that someone special to share life, laughter and love. Box 429124 1

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5ft2, blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 1

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUTH

I'm a female, 34, 5ft5, kind, caring, 33, brown hair, brown eyes, nice smile, seeking down-to-earth and loving male to get to know and see what happens! Box 901072 1 2

FUN-LOVING FEMALE

Attractive, 31, 5ft4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 308734 1 2

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

Bubbly, genuine, honest, caring Mum of 3, 34, dark hair, blue eyes, loves nights in/out, seeking male, 30-40, with GSOH, for love and all. Box 437041 1

SEIZE THE DAY

Attractive and friendly female, 36, caring, considerate, outgoing, loves to travel and walk on beaches, seeks similar male for potential long term romance. Box 442392 1

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438120 1

ATTRACTIVE

Professional female, 43, enjoys dancing, walking, reading and cooking, WLTM an intelligent professional male, who can hold a good conversation, for a relationship. Box 444262 1

PRINCESS FIONA

Fun-loving single mum, 37, 5ft6, loves going out, staying in and having fun, WLTM a male to be my knight in shining armour. Box 443290 1

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(Save you time and money
(in your search for romance).

DEAL OR NO DEAL? (IN DEAL
Deal-based lady, 43, divorced, blonde, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 1 2

MISS JULIE
Blonde blonde, 44, stupid and like having a laugh, good company, friendship, would like to meet new friends for hopefully love... Box 886162 1

A MOMENT LIKE THIS
Divorced female, 45, loyal, funny, courageous and very romantic, WLTM a faithful and funny guy for a relationship. Box 889634 1

COULD IT BE YOU?
Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800 1

YOUNG AT HEART
Compassionate, attractive female, 45, 5ft6, big build, red hair, blue eyes, likes cinema, walking, cycling, seeking a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557 1

HAPPY GO LUCKY
Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 1

LET'S TAKE A RIDE
Hi, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTM gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 440397 1

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?
Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 1

HOPING AND LOVE FOREVER
Professional female, 49, blonde, loves the outdoors, good food, good wine, seeking similar as myself for loving relationship. Box 443984 1

ALL THAT I NEED
Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving & outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out & staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833 1

CARING & LOVE

Friendly female, 49, blonde, 5ft4, long hair, social, seeking mate for friendship and hopefully more! Box 444232 1 2

HELP!
Female, 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes cinema, walking out, socialising and times with. Box 432102 1

MAKE ME LAUGH!
Fun extravert person, 45, likes cinema, going out, meals, socialising, 5ft7, dark brown hair/eyes, curly, seeking nice guy to start off as friends. Box 442905 1

POLESHAD LADY SEEKING...
Attractive polish lady, 40s, loves art, film, music, cooking and long walks, seeking a fun gent, 35+, for a fun relationship. Box 445878 1

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE
Hard-working female, 41, 5ft4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 1

LOVELY JOSEPHINE
Passionate and fun-loving 49 yr old female, enjoys clubbing, meals and cooking, WLTM a male to share evenings out with. Box 445225 1

ATTRACTIVE
Professional female, 43, enjoys dancing, walking, reading and cooking, WLTM an intelligent professional male, who can hold a good conversation, for a relationship. Box 444262 1

PRINCESS FIONA
Fun-loving single mum, 37, 5ft6, loves going out, staying in and having fun, WLTM a male to be my knight in shining armour. Box 443290 1

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MOVING ON FROM FRIENDSHIP
Hi I'm 45, 5ft6, largish build, blue eyes, non-smoker, divorced. Muslim, seeking male to share life with, walking, socialising and more. Canterbury. Box 440592 1

AND ALL THAT JAZZ
Warm, radiant, witty, intelligent, attractive, black female, Christian, 44, likes music, jazz, travel, art, restaurants, theatre, seeking a cultured, N/S, intelligent, solvent gentleman. Box 433075 1

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!
44yr old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810 1

EVERLASTING LOVE
Beautiful black female, 46, WLTM a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 5ft7, 5ft10+, a bit of a sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 445407 1

ARE YOU MY MRIGHT?
Independent, honest, caring and genuine smoker, 53, medium build, GSOH, likes socialising, travelling, WLTM a genuine and honest male for friendship, companionship or more. Box 438742 1

LARGER WOMAN WANTED
Muscular female, 36, 5ft5, 5ft6, hibiscus blonde, weight lifting, reading, music, reading etc, seeking a medium/large female for fun, friendship and who knows what else. Box 444119 1

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, FRIENDSHIP

Hi, I'm Teresa, 53, 5ft4, medium build, blonde hair, 5ft11, I have 1 daughter aged 11. I like having fun, going out, and enjoying life. Box 445455 1

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Hi, I'm Teresa, 53, young, like anything different and ordinary things! WLTM a male, my age or younger, for a possible relationship. Box 445707 1

KEEP GOING

Hi there, I'm a separated woman, 51, blonde hair, I have 1 daughter aged 11. I like having fun, going out, and enjoying life. Box 445455 1

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS

Hi, I'm Teresa, 53, young, like anything different and ordinary things! WLTM a male, my age or younger, for a possible relationship. Box 445707 1

ARE YOU MY MRIGHT?

Independent, honest, caring and genuine smoker, 53, medium build, GSOH, likes socialising, travelling, WLTM a genuine and honest male for friendship, companionship or more. Box 438742 1

SMART MOVE

Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes slimming, cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeking a similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 443842 1

ETERNALLY YOURS

Easygoing woman, likes most things in life, loves to travel, cinema, music, cooking, I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build. WLTM genuine, happy girl, easygoing & fun. Box 445635 1

HAPPY GO LUCKY

Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 1

LET'S TAKE A RIDE

Hi, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTM gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 440397 1

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 1

HOPING AND LOVE FOREVER

Professional female, 49, blonde, 5ft4, long hair, social, seeking mate for friendship and hopefully more! Box 444232 1 2

SMART MOVE

Spontaneous, friendly female, 49, likes slimming, cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeking a similar person for friendship leading to hopefully more. Box 443842 1

GOING STEADY

Cute 39 yr old man, 6ft1, slim, looking for a lady, 35-50, for fun, friendship and a steady relationship. Box 445819 1

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, blonde hair, likes walking, travelling, WLTM an outgoing, fun-loving and honest male to share the rest of my life with. Box 445122 1

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, blonde, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mom, 49, enjoys cinema, walking out, socialising and times with. Box 443984 1

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help! We're writing up my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and hopefully more! Box 444232 1

TRUSTWORTHY

Margate male, 37, 6ft3, dark hair, nice big build. I work in residential care which I love. I'm down-to-earth, kind, tactile, with a GSOH. Box 443477 1

HAPPINESS IS...

Good-looking male, 36, short spiky brown hair, likes dancing, socialising, films, WLTM nice, loyal, honest female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 440404 1 2

HAPPINESS IS...

Good-looking male, 36, short spiky brown hair, likes dancing, socialising, films, WLTM nice, loyal, honest female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 440404 1 2

SOUND GOOD?

Hi there! I'm 47, 6ft, athletic, good-looking, divvies, likes pub, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, WLTM a male, 35-45, for slim, for fun! Box 445872 1

IN YOUR EYES

Blond blonde male, 58, 6ft, likes socialising, cinema, love in Ashford, looking for a great lady for fun, friendship and more. Box 421664 1

MATURE IS BETTER

Slim 44yr old male, likes swimming, cycling and watching dvds, WLTM an older male for friendship and fun. Box 445848 1

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!

Youthful dad, 45, 6ft1, brown hair, med build, likes pub, cinema, restaurants, theme parks! seeking slim lady 30-45 for possible relationship... Box 439919 1

SOON TO BE DIVORCED

My name is Steve, 41, 5ft4, young, 5ft7, normal build, looking for good company and fun with a female of height. GSOH is a must! Box 886515 1 2

A MAN WHO LOVES SHOES

Good-looking male, 42, beautiful blue eyes, likes good music, history channels, Indian food and shoes! WLTM a male to be my knight in shining armour. Box 443671 1

WOMEN seeking women

Friendly female, 20-30, for a fun evening out. Box 443671 1

ASHFORD MAN

Attractive guy, nice to be with, laid back, I'm 41, 5ft6, medium/stubby build, brown hair, own business and home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants, cinema. Box 437225 1

GET BACK

Gentle male, 42, brown eyes, medium build, works hard, own place, has hobbies, enjoys walking, cinema, conversation, eating out and more with. Box 444952 1

LOVELY JO

Young-looking attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly, sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTM genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146 1

WOMEN seeking women

Friendly female, 20-30, for a fun evening out. Box 443671 1

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Friendly female, 20-30, for a fun evening out. Box 443671 1



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Senior & General Appointments 36-39



East Kent Medical Services Ltd are opening a private facility at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and are looking to recruit the following:

Staff Nurses For Ward and Outpatients

Full/Part Time • Days/Nights

We also have vacancies within our Flexi Bank

To discuss these opportunities please contact

Jean Cosgrove, Sister or Deborah Burr, Senior Staff Nurse on 01233 616201

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E-mail: mandy@thespencervwing.com

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Two part-time 18.5 hours per week posts

Ashford or Whitstable (Urban Swale)

Ref: CFE/08/0588

The purpose of these roles is to promote, support and develop
the expansion of existing early years and out of school group
childcare provision.

You could come to us with an NVQ Level 3 or equivalent in Early
Years, childcare and/or play work. Alternatively, you'll need a
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group childcare setting. You will have worked in an advisory or
supportive capacity within a multi-agency environment, dealing with
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Good communication skills and the ability to work effectively and
sensitively with the widest range of colleagues are essential.

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Starting salary £20,061, with progression through
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Deal and Sandwich Cluster, one 37 hours per week
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Dover Cluster, one four full days per week post -
Ref: CFE/08/0569

Both posts are term time only (40 weeks per year)
and are currently based in the Attendance and
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You will work with schools, families and pupils to promote regular
school attendance in these challenging roles which require the

ability to work independently as well as being a good team member.
You will receive in-service training, regular supervision and support
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We are one of only a few schools to have achieved Specialist Schools
Status in the Communication and Interaction strand, in addition to
having achieved national recognition for our developments in
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PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

£28,172 - £30,598 - 37 hours per week - All Year Round

As the successful candidate you will have responsibility for the
development of projects and strategies designed to drive the approach
towards Communication and Behaviour closer together, part of which
will be support the embedding and on-going delivery of the Gentle
Teaching approach.

You will play a significant role in the implementation of actions to
deliver our commitments under the Specialist Schools action plans by
providing and facilitating advice, guidance and training to a range of
professionals and parents, both on and off-site, concerning the
development of communication and the self-management of behaviour
skills.

This is an all-year-round Post, and there will be a significant element
of working and liaising with others away from the school.

BEHAVIOUR ASSISTANT

£15,260 - £16,889 - 34 hours per week - Term Time Only

The aim of this post is to provide organisational and administrative
support to the Behaviour Manager and the Practice Development
Manager. Also to support the child contact staff at the school in
implementation of Behaviour Management Strategies.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible
and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively
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For an application form and information pack please call
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Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than
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AEM
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TRAINEE MACHINIST

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This position offers 25 days annual holiday and the membership of the company pension scheme. Please send your CV with current salary details to Mr Paul Ruprecht, Operations Manager, AEM Limited, Wilton Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 5HE or e-mail to paul.ruprecht@ametek.co.uk. Closing date 22nd November 2008.



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Closing date: 6/11/08

Clinical Workforce Development Manager
Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pa

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Hours: 22.5

Location: Whitstable

Ref: 767-ECC570

Closing date: 7/11/08

Company Secretary
Salary: £52,007 to £64,118 pa

Band: 8c

Hours: 37.5

Location: Brook House, Whitstable

Ref: 767-ASH184

Closing date: 7/11/08

Personal Assistant/Team Secretary
Salary: £17,316 to £20,818 pa

Band: 4

Hours: 37.5

Location: Ashford

Ref: 767-ECC583

Closing date: 10/11/08

Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator
Salary: £43,221 to £53,432 pa

Band: 8b

Hours: 37.5

Location: County Hall, Maidstone

Ref: 767-ASH195

Closing date: 10/11/08

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Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

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Closing date: 10/11/08

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Band: 3

Hours: 18.5

Location: Protea House, Dover

Ref: 767-ASH193

Closing date: 10/11/08

PPE and Communication Manager

Salary: £29,091 - £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

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Band: 6

Hours: Annualised hours

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Ref: 767-ECC589

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Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Gillingham

Ref: 767-ECC591

Closing date: 10/11/08

Family Planning Nurse

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: Annualised hours

Location: Shepway, Sittingbourne, Medway Area and West Kent

Ref: 767-ECC590

Closing date: 10/11/08

Family Planning Nurse

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: Annualised hours

Location: Shepway, Sittingbourne, Medway Area and West Kent

Ref: 767-ECC589

Closing date: 10/11/08

Additional Clinical Services

Clinical Coach

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Ashford

Ref: 767-ECC576

Closing date: 6/11/08

Health Promotion Practitioner Specialist

Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa

Band: 6

Hours: 37.5

Location: Dover

Ref: 767-ECC584

Closing date: 7/11/08

Advanced Support Worker

Salary: £17,316 to £20,818 pa

Band: 5

Hours: 37.5

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Closing date: 10/11/08

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Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Margate

Ref: 767-ECC518

Closing date: 7/11/08

Biomechanics Specialist Chiropodist

Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa

Band: 7

Hours: 37.5

Location: Ashford

Ref: 767-ECC592

Closing date: 10/11/08



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For more information and an application form please contact:

Udi Perry - Vocational Services Manager

Chaucer Homecare Ltd, 1a & 1b Craddock Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YP

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- the ability to rise to the challenge of fostering
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Closing date: Friday 21 November 2008.

This post is open to part-time and job share applicants. You will be required to declare whether you are a member of a group or organisation, which the Prison Service considers to be racist. The Prison Service is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from candidates regardless of ethnic origin, religious belief, gender, age (subject to being within the normal retirement age for the grade), sexual orientation, disability or any other irrelevant factor.

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Due to continued expansion and growth, the above vacancy has arisen in our EBD Schools for pupils in Key Stages 2 – 4; all of whom have emotional and behavioural difficulties. EBD experience preferable but not essential as support and training will be given. A flexible approach to teaching is important.

Salary depending on experience, post to commence asap

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Health & Social Care	S/HSC
French	S/FRENCH
Beauty Therapy	S/BEAUTY
Counselling	S/COUN
Mental Health	S/MH
Information, Advice & Guidance	S/IAG
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First Aid	S/FA
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For an informal discussion, please contact Tim Edwards on 01622 605400.

For an application form, please call Gloria Turrell on 01622 605397 or email: csd.recruitment@kent.gov.uk quoting ref: CM-08-074.

Closing date: 14th November 2008.



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Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference: 522.

Closing date: Sunday 9 November 2008.

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For further information and an application form email recruitment@kca.org.uk or write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Alternatively, call 01795 590635. Please quote ref: 525

Closing date: 14 November 2008.

Interview date: 26 November 2008.

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For an application form and job description please: Visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk

Email: rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Telephone 01634 884555 (24 hour answer machine)

For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661

Closing Date 21st November 2008



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The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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with Business Editor
TONY PATEY

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Firms clamping down on 'social networking'

ONE in three firms in southern England has tough policies for stopping staff social networking, according to new research.

UK firms are the strictest in Europe for not allowing staff to access Facebook and other social networking sites at work.

A new report by mobile network provider 3 reveals that millions of us are social networking during office hours.

Thirty per cent of people in the region surf social networking sites while at work and experts have now coined the term 'social networking' to describe the trend.

It has reached endemic proportions but bosses aren't impressed, with many now imposing official restrictions.

Contract hard sell

BUSINESSES are still overlooking one of the most critical parts of a firm – IT support – says a county expert.

Stuart Kenny, director of Liquid Knowledge in Ashford, said: "Many businesses renew their IT contract habitually and have found their contracts are either lacking in terms of support or far exceed their requirements.

"Basic hardware warranties offer limited peace of mind as modern IT equipment is robust and stable.

"Only 10 per cent of all warranty claims involve hardware. The other 90 per cent relate to software and it is only when software problems have to be resolved that the business owner realises their warranty is hardware-based only."

Data security deficit

A LARGE part of the South East's workforce does not know how or where personal and company data is stored.

They also do not understand the importance of keeping data secure, according to a survey commissioned by data centre and computer room specialists Migration Solutions. Almost half of respondents surveyed had never heard of data centres.

And 39 per cent had no idea where their company data was stored, while 45 per cent of respondents believed their company's data was stored on the server.

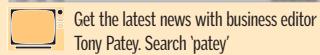
Half were unsure if their company backed up its data, while a tenth knew for sure that their company did not.

A quarter believed a long-term IT disaster at head office, such as flood or fire, would have no impact on the business at all.

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Savers batten down the economic hatch

■ BY **TONY PATEY**

MORE than three-quarters of South East small-business owners are holding onto their cash rather than making immediate decisions about investment because of economic uncertainties.

According to new research by Bank of Scotland Business Banking, over the next 12 months, two in five plan to put aside money for future investment in the business, while a third plan to put aside money in savings to earn interest.

A third plan to put aside money for insurance against hard times and a further worsening in economic conditions.

Britain's small-business owners are currently saving more than £1 billion every month, and a quarter of SMEs in the South East are investing more back into their business than they are saving.

Slightly more are saving and investing in equal amounts, and only one in eight is saving more each month than they are investing back into the business. A third of small-business owners are neither saving nor investing.

Peter Wood, head of strategy and products at Bank of Scotland Business Banking, said: "In a more cautious economic climate, where saving is prioritised over investment, it's vital that SMEs find the best home for their surplus cash."

Meantime, with individuals, almost a third of people in the South East have changed spending habits in the last six months and spent less to cope with the credit crunch – and the region now has the biggest savers.

The average savings balance is £15,493 compared with a national average of £12,703. Scots are reckoned to be the worst savers, with an average stash of £9,939.

Figures released by Lloyds TSB Consumer Banking reveals that more than half of respondents in the region are taking action to clear their debts. Individuals in the South East have, on average, unsecured debt of £2,800, slightly above the national average of £2,771.

A third have increased the amount they pay off each month, compared with only 24 per cent in the North East – the UK's most indebted region.

However, when it comes to long-term saving, 32 per cent of respondents say they do not have a pension, while 57 per cent admit they are concerned about not having enough money for retirement.

In fact, one in five of inhabitants in the region has less than £500 in their savings, leaving them potentially vulnerable to financial difficulty in these uncertain times.

Over half of savers in the South East say they are putting money aside for a rainy day or emergencies. Almost a third are saving for holidays and 27 per cent are putting money away for their retirement. One in five say they are saving for future increases in household bills.



PENNY WISE: Savers in the South East are the cannier in the country

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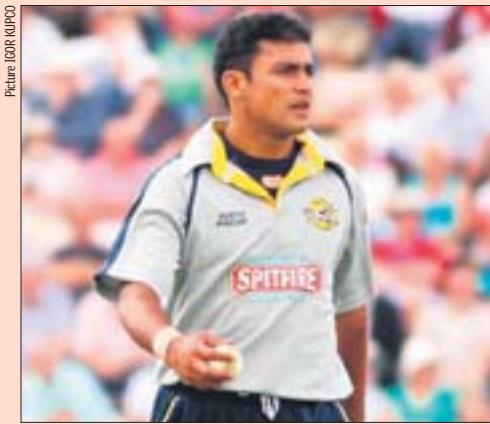
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EXIT: Kent need a new overseas star after Yasir Arafat re-joined Sussex

Relegation to give Kent's new breed chance to prove their worth, says Key

KENT'S reliance on Kolpak players as a "stopgap" appears to be at an end with the emergence of a crop of new youngsters, according to skipper Rob Key.

The county have turned to Kolpak cricketers in recent years to bolster their squad, with the additions of South Africans Martin van Jaarsveld, Ryan McLaren and Justin Kemp, but the club will change its policy next season.

Relegation in the County Championship this summer was hard for everyone connected with Kent to take, but Key admits it gives the club's youngsters an opportunity to impress.

He said: "It's a chance for us to bring

CRICKET

on some of the young players. We do not want to be going down the Kolpak route as that was a stopgap for us for a while.

"Players like Ryan McLaren have been fantastic and continue to be so, but at the same time we have got to be giving the youngsters a chance."

Sam Northeast, Charlie Hemphrey and Alex Blake will push their claims for inclusion at the start of the season.

Meanwhile, Pakistan all-rounder Yasir Arafat followed Neil Dexter and

Matt Walker out of the club last week after re-signing for Sussex.

The 26-year-old, who joined Kent in 2006 from Sussex, performed admirably for the county in his two years at St Lawrence.

He was leading wicket-taker in one-day and Twenty20 cricket last season, but his decision to sign for Indian Premier League side Kolkata Knight Riders forced Kent's hand as it meant he would not have been available for the whole season.

Kent now begin the search for a new overseas star, with Key not ruling out the possibility of using two players over the course of the year.

Green mauled by fast-starting Bears

BROMLEY Green were unable to recover from a dreadful start as they lost to a resurgent Bearsted on Saturday.

Green conceded a penalty after only two minutes, which was easily dispatched by Jason Batt.

It was 2-0 minutes later, but the home side pulled a goal back before the break when Dan Cornell headed home Ryan Smith's cross.

A third goal for the visitors in the second half proved decisive, leaving Green 12th. They visit Fleet Leisure this weekend.

In Division One East, Kennington's game at APM Mears fell victim to the weather. This Saturday they host fellow strugglers New Romney.

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Town release Hogg

MIDFIELDER Anthony Hogg has been released from his contract at Ashford Town.

Hogg rejoined manager Steve Lovell in January after playing for him at Sittingbourne, but although he featured in the Ashford side last season, he has found his opportunities limited this campaign.

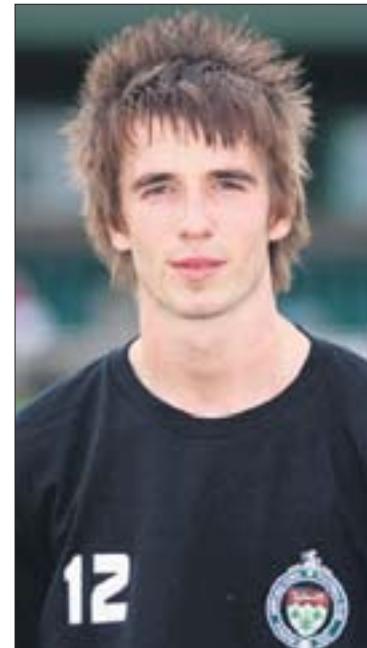
Lovell said: "We have a few players vying for central midfield positions and especially now, with James Humphreys coming back into the squad, Hogg was not really going to be in my plans so we have let him go."

Striker Bradley Spice, also signed by Lovell from Sittingbourne, has decided to take a month away from football.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



HOT SHOTS: Mitchell Sherwood (left) was restored to Town's right wing, while Jimmy Bottle (right) netted his first goal for Ashford after returning from injury



Picture: GOR KIPPO

Nuts and Bolts undone by last-gasp equaliser

FOOTBALL

■ BY YOURASHFORD REPORTER

Fleet Town 2

Hemmings 64, Smith 90

Ashford Town 2

Jones 3, Bottle 76

A 95TH minute equaliser denied a much-improved Ashford Town their first win in seven games on Saturday.

Paul Jones got the Nuts and Bolts off to a perfect start with an early goal and Jimmy Bottle's first strike of the season looked to have won the game, but with the final attack Fleet levelled to claim a share of the points.

Town boss Steve Lovell made two changes to the starting line-up after losing 1-0 at Merstham in midweek. Mitchell Sherwood was recalled to the right wing while Bottle, who recovered after a nasty head injury, returned to play on the left wing.

The visitors got off to a flying start as Jones put them ahead inside three minutes. A long ball over the top caught the Fleet defence flat-footed and the striker raced through before rounding the goalkeeper to tap into an empty net. It was his seventh goal of the season, joining Sherwood as the club's leading scorer this season.

The goal gave Ashford renewed confidence and they went on to control the first half. They

should have extended their lead before ten minutes had been played, with both Claude Seanla and Jones wasting good opportunities.

Goalkeeper Josh Willis was forced off with a thigh injury, replaced by Jamie Riley, but it failed to halt the visitors' momentum. Bottle shot wide and Daniel Brathwaite had a goal disallowed before the break.

Seanla and Sean Ray missed presentable chances to make the game safe early in the second half, before Fleet levelled against the run of play.

On 63 minutes James Field whipped in a

Ashford starting XI



Subs used: Riley (Willis 16), Doerr (Seanla 75), Browne (Bottle 76)

dangerous free kick and Steve Hemmings rose highest to nod into the bottom corner of the net.

Despite the setback Ashford continued to create chances and it was not long before they edged in front again.

Sherwood swung in a deep cross from the right which was perfect for Bottle to calmly volley home from ten yards.

But as the game ticked into the fifth minute of injury time, Fleet found a second goal to deny Ashford.

On Saturday, Lovell's side host Walton & Hersham at Homelands.

No Olympic hangover as Staff sprints to title

CYCLING

■ BY TOM HOWARD

OLYMPIC champion Jamie Staff made a victorious return to the Track Cycling scene with a comfortable victory in the Team Sprint at the World Cup meeting in Manchester on Sunday.

The event was Staff's first competitive race since he clinched the Olympic gold medal in Beijing just two months ago.

A huge home crowd turned out for the meeting at the Manchester Velodrome to witness the Team GB Olympic cyclists in action.

The 35-year-old joined fellow Olympic Team Sprint champion Jason Kenny and Ross Edgar in the trio for the Team Sprint competition.

Staff and the Great Britain team qualified for the final with ease, finishing fastest in the heats. They posted a time a second faster than second-placed Poland and more than a second slower than their pace in Beijing.

With Great Britain's main

rivals France, who they beat in the Olympic final in August, not competing, Staff, Kenny and Edgar set up a gold medal final with Poland.

The trio were not phased in the final and crossed the line almost a second faster than Poland with a time of 44.306 seconds.

A blistering opening lap by Staff gave the Great Britain team a half-a-second lead. They crossed the line to a standing ovation from the Manchester crowd.

The victory for Staff and the Great Britain trio will give them boost, as they head to the next round of the World Cup at Melbourne on November 20.

Staff has already set his sights on becoming world champion as his next target after achieving his ultimate goal of being Olympic champion in the summer.

With France winning the Team Sprint in the last two championships, including this year's event at Manchester in March, Staff is determined to add the crown to his impressive career.

The 2009 World Championship takes place in Poland in March, which will give the Ashford cyclist and the Great Britain team time to train to reach their peak fitness once again.



TRIUMPHANT RETURN: Jamie Staff returned to the top step of the podium by winning the gold medal in the Team Sprint World Cup meeting at Manchester

LEAGUE TABLES

(Not including midweek games)

PREMIER DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Kingstonian	13	10	3	0	+23	33
2 Metropolitan Police	15	7	6	2	+11	27
3 Folkestone Invicta	14	7	4	3	+6	25
4 Cray Wanderers	13	7	3	3	+5	24
5 Godalming Town	14	7	2	5	+10	23
6 Merstham	14	7	2	5	+1	23
7 Sittingbourne	13	7	1	5	-1	22
8 Fleet Town	12	5	5	2	+7	20
9 Eastbourne Town	14	6	2	6	+4	20
10 Walton & Hersham	14	6	2	6	0	20
11 Ashford Town	15	4	6	5	+5	18
12 Burgess Hill Town	12	5	3	4	+5	18
13 Worthing	11	5	3	3	+3	18
14 Dulwich Hamlet	12	5	3	4	+3	18
15 Leatherhead	14	5	3	6	-9	18
16 Whitstable Town	15	4	2	9	-17	14
17 Whyteleafe	12	4	1	7	-5	13
18 Walton Casuals	13	3	3	7	-8	12
19 Chipstead	11	2	4	5	-9	10
20 Corinthian-Casuals	15	2	4	9	-14	10
21 Croydon Athletic	13	2	3	8	-9	9
22 Crowborough Ath	13	2	3	8	-11	9

FIXTURES

Saturday, November 8

Ryman Division One South
Ashford Town v Walton & Hersham

Weather fails to put a dampner on Brews

SUNDAY LEAGUE

ONLY one game in the Ashford & District Sunday League Premier Division escaped the weather last weekend as Brewmaster comfortably beat Bromley Green.

Darren Light grabbed a hat-trick and Danny Jennings netted twice for Brews, while Gary Mickelbrough scored Bromley Green's consolation in a 5-1 defeat.

Three-quarters of the matches in the Sheber Trophy were cancelled due to the heavy rain on Saturday, but two sides did make it through to the quarter finals.

Bromley Green Reserves fared better than their first team, smashing eight past Wye Monarchs Reserves. Ashley Webster helped himself to six of the goals in an 8-1 win.

In the only other game in the competition to survive, Newchurch beat Trottis Reserves 6-2. Gavin Prowse hit a hat-trick, with Greg Hitchman, John Simpson and Phil Aspri all getting on the score sheet. Andy Adamson scored both Trottis' goals.

In the Division One Cup, Shay McGuinness' brace helped Hamstreet overcome Bocca 3-2. Darren Warburton got the home side's other goal to cancel out a brace from Bocca's Jeff Ross.

Egerton progressed in Division Two, beating Wye Monarchs 5-2. Sean Magri and Richard Tubbs shared four goals between them and Arran Dry scored the fifth. Harry Yates and Richard Lynch scored for Wye.

Shadoxhurst continue to be the team to beat in Division Three. Givaudan were the latest side to finish second best as they were



THRASHING: Brewmaster (red/black) were comfortable winners against Bromley Green

thrashed 9-1. Stuart Prior filled his boots with six goals and Sean Gibbs, Andy Hone and James Matthews all hit one each.

In the bottom tier, title contenders Park Farm Rangers beat Blibby Reserves 8-2.

FOOTBALL



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

BLOW: Steve Lovell was left frustrated by a late equaliser that prevented Ashford from winning on Saturday

Lovell hoping luck will turn in Town's favour

STEVE Lovell was left frustrated after his side conceded a last-gasp equaliser to deny Ashford Town their first win since victory at Metropolitan Police at the end of September.

Ashford fans thought they were on their way to their points after Jimmy Bottle's second half strike gave them a 2-1 lead. However, Eddie Smith snatched a last gasp equaliser in the 95th minute.

Lovell said: "It was a blow but things are not going our way at the moment. Luck changes over the season and I am sure it will change. We deserved to win the game. I do not know where the referee got the extra time from but it doesn't matter. The boys played really well."

The 2-2 draw extended Ashford's run without a win to seven games and they have slipped to 11th in Ryman South. On Saturday, Town host Walton & Hersham and Lovell is confident his side will end their poor run of form.

He said: "It has been a long time without a win but we have drawn quite a few. We are still not far off being in the play-offs."

"Every team will have a bad run during the season. We are in a bit of one now, but on Saturday we played well and I am sure we will get back to winning ways soon. We had a squad meeting during the week and we have faith we can turn it around."

"They are all tough tests in this league. Walton & Hersham will be difficult but the league is very tight apart from Kingstonian. We have still got 28 games to go this season. We are confident we can string some good performances together and go on a run."

With midfielder Anthony Hogg leaving the club last week, Lovell has admitted he would be interested in strengthening the squad if the right player became available.

He said: "I would like to strengthen all over really. If someone becomes available that we want I will try to get them. We are scoring goals and are defending quite well so I am quite happy with the squad."

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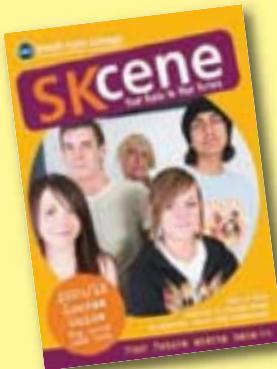
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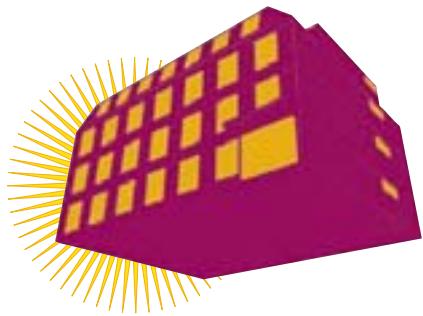
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